

# Minority Opportunity News

"Our Ninth Year"  
Established 1991

"The Paper of Choice"

May 1-15, 2000  
Volume 9, Number 9

## NATIONAL NEWS BRIEFS

Proposed resolution condemns  
use of Confederate Flag

US Representative Bennie G. Thompson (D-MS) introduced a resolution condemning the use of the Confederate Flag for "any reason other than as a historic reminder of the secession of the Confederate States, which prompted the violent, bloody, and divisive civil war, and the Confederacy's flagrant disregard for the equality of all Americans in accordance with the US Constitution and in the eyes of God." Thompson said, "...the flag has become shrouded in an over-simplified, revisionist version of American history."

School named for black  
newspaper publisher

Clovis C. Campbell Sr. may be the first black newspaper to have a school named in his honor. Campbell has been honored in the naming of a new state-of-the-art school for grades K-8 in South Phoenix, AS. He became publisher of the Arizona Informant in 1971 and has lived his entire life in the black community where the school has been established.

Representative seeks equal treatment for Haitian immigrant

Representative Alcee Hastings (D-FL) introduced legislation to end unequal treatment between immigrants from Cuba and other nations. The legislation calls for permanent residency for a 6 year-old, motherless Haitian girl in Florida. The girl was left in the care of a family friend when her mother died last year. The bill is designed to provide the girl with the same proposed opportunities as Elian Gonzalez.

Business deprives Denzel  
of his Oscar

Sources say a Ft. Lauderdale business, Cal Deal, play a major role in ensuring Denzel Washington of not receiving an Oscar for his performance in "The Hurricane".

Deal's said his reason for not giving the Oscar to Washington was, "I openly opposed an Oscar for Denzel Washington because of his disinterest in the truth and his public endorsements of Carter."

Denzel Washington



## Candidates Vie for City Council Seat

### SPECIAL ELECTION Place 8

Sandra Crenshaw ☐

James Fantroy ☐

Ruth Steward ☐

Joe Tave ☐

Cover Story  
Page 12

Feature:  
An Al Lipscomb Update

Capitol Watch:  
Million Mom March

## MAY MILESTONE MOMENTS

102 1920 The first game of the National Negro Baseball League is in Indianapolis, Ind. The NNL was formed earlier in the year by Andrew "Rube" Foster and a group of African-American baseball club owners to combat prejudice and further enjoyment of the game.

03 1845 Macon B. Allen becomes the first African-American formally admitted to the bar in Massachusetts when he passes. The previous year he was admitted to the bar in Maine, making him the first licensed African-American attorney in the U.S.

05 1919 The NAACP awards the Spingarn Medal to William Stanley Braithwaite. His publication of essays and verse earned him wide acclaim.

08 1771 Phillis Wheatley sails for England. Two years later, her book of poetry, *Poems on Various Subjects, Religious and Moral*, will be published in London.

10 1950 Jackie Robinson appears on the cover of Life. It is the first time an African-American has been featured on the magazine's cover in its 13-year history.

May 13, 1950  
Birth of Stevie Wonder

Stevie Wonder was born in Saginaw, Michigan as Steveland Judkins. He suffered permanent blindness after receiving too much oxygen immediately after birth. He went on to play the piano at age 7, and drums and harmonica by 9. His family moved to Detroit in 1954. He was discovered in 1961, signed with Motown Records and became Little Stevie Wonder. He married Motown artist Syreeta in 1970 and later that year was seriously injured in a car accident. Besides his own recordings, Wonder has offered his services as a writer, producer, singer, or musician to several other performers, including work with Paul McCartney, which produced the hit "Ebony and Ivory".

Stevie Wonder



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## Next Edition Features

# West Cliff Shopping Plaza



The Black State Employees Association of Texas Community Development Corporation, Inc., has received building permits and approvals for its much anticipated 95,000 sq. ft. shopping center development located at the intersection of Ledbetter Drive (Loop 12) and Hampton Road in southwest Dallas. Development officials say the West Cliff Shopping Plaza will be the largest commercial retail development of its kind, size and magnitude by an African-American community or national based organization in the history of this country. In the next edition, MON takes a look at the progress of the plaza and focuses on the perspective tenants of shopping center. In a Salute to Small Businesses, we will also feature African-American businesses involved in the building process.

*"Each and every one of us has to demonstrate individual initiative to close the gap between what our community has and what it needs."*

Ed Lewis

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## Lipscomb's legacy based on three life phases

As the final days of contemplation over the fate of former city councilman Al Lipscomb draw near, it is probably an appropriate time to consider the legacy that will be left, both by Mr. Lipscomb and the situation surrounding his removal from office. The dictionary defines legacy as "Something handed down from an ancestor or a predecessor or from the past." With this meaning in mind, what then will be the legacy that we will have from the work of Al Lipscomb?

As it relates to his more public life, there are, at least, three aspects of his person that leave a lasting mark. The first of these is the life of Al as a community activist. For years, Al served as the catalyst for many of the positive changes for African-Americans and others within our city. The adage holds true that "the squeakiest wheel gets the oil" summarizes much of Al's role and contributions during the earliest years of his political involvement. Many Dallasites will remember the regularity with which Al was escorted from city council meetings where he, very vocally, expressed his concerns for our community. Over time, he developed a reputation for being a firebrand and one who would stand up to the powers of the city to promote his issues. This confrontational style drew both supporters and detractors who began to establish strong feelings, to the pro or con, towards Al. Whatever the case, his activism left the clear message that the traditional ways of doing business in Dallas were changing and that our community would demand a seat at the table of control and decisions.

The second distinct aspect of Al's legacy is that of his role as the gentlemen-statesman. Following his election to citywide office, Al displayed a more mellow approach to interacting with his fellow politicians and promoting his concerns and programs. Even those

who were on the other side of his political agendas would have to admit that he was a very cordial, elderly statesman. It was this demeanor that earned Al many friends and admirers, including those persons who once were his adversaries. He was seen as one who expressed himself and his concerns with passion and sincere belief. This approach earned the respect of others and contributed to the image of Al as a staunch supporter of minority concerns, and advocate for economic development, and more-over a genuinely and exceptionally good and friendly individual.



Al Lipscomb

The third phase of Al's legacy will, over the days to come, perhaps be the most troubling and difficult lesson to be learned. As a convicted felon, he has become a visible example of the lessons taught by the American judicial system. Consider the questions that the indictment and trial have left for our community. How can those who serve in the political front live without the time and ability to earn an income? When did "the way things are done here in Dallas" become an indictable offense? Who holds federal judges accountable for their whims and decisions? Where is the notion of mercy in the issuing of sentencing? Once a political foundation has been laid, have we prepared others to continue the work? Most significantly, what will be the long-term effect, for those considering political office, of the scrutiny to their past and "closets" that may come from public service - not only for what they do today but what they may have done years ago?

Whether we like it or not, the concluding chapter of the Al Lipscomb political legacy has been written and it will end with a very somber and woe-ful chapter.

## Who is suited for city council?

Election years give us the occasion to assess the quality of our political leaders. This concern is heightened because of the increased focus directed towards political hopefuls ranging from the wake of the issues surrounding President Clinton to those of Councilman Al Lipscomb. The bottom line is that, no matter who or what position, the scrutiny afforded to candidates is at an all time high. In the midst of this review, we often hear the broad call for what traits we do not want candidates to possess. However, a more significant challenge may be for us to reaffirm the characteristics we want to find in our political leaders.

Here are a few of the traits we consider most critical:

**Justice** - We see more and more occasions where the judicial system may be unwilling to support our issues and rights. More than ever before, leaders must have a clear and grounded sense of justice, for our communities and for individuals.

**Judgment** - The ability to weigh many factors and arrive at sound and rational decisions is critical, whether in the personal or professional lives of the leaders.

**Dependability** - Our community must be able rely on the consistent performance of our leadership.

**Initiative** - As basic premise of leadership is the willingness and ability to "lead". Frequently, leaders will be faced with the need to assume the front posi-

**Integrity** - Integrity is defined as "Steadfast adherence to a strict moral or ethical code." Few would question the fact that this is an essential leadership characteristic.

**Enthusiasm** - Especially when the times and decisions are tough, it truly can help if the leader enjoys the work they do, finds satisfaction in the contributions they make and are eager to do both.

**Bearing** - An old adage suggests that we should always be concerned with how we carry ourselves. This suggestion is particularly true for politicians.

**Unselfishness** - Being driven to pursue leadership roles because of personal gain is a prescription for trouble - for the leader and the community they allege to serve.

**Courage** - Leadership will require the ability to stand alone in the midst of varying demands and influences. Persons in these roles must possess the strength to walk the path demanded by conscience and the right thing to do.

**Knowledge** - No matter how committed, there is no replacement for a firm understanding of the issues and topics being debated. This requires that leaders be willing to do the "homework" necessary to understand the breadth and depth of the matters they review.

**Loyalty** - Loyalty and integrity are closely related. Loyalty obligates the leader to be consistently committed to

# District 8

tion on the issues and concerns of our community.

**Decisiveness** - Watered-down and politically contrived decisions do little long-term good. On the contrary, we must have leaders willing and able to take strong, and sometimes controversial, decisions when necessary.

**Tact** - Political and constituency relationships are shaped by the ability to be sensitive to the needs and feelings of others.

their constituencies and their needs.

**Endurance** - Don't be confused. The work of a leader is difficult and challenging. Having the strength, physical, mental, moral and otherwise, is crucial.

While some may look at this list of leadership traits and consider it a call for saints, the more realistic review tells us that we should expect no less from those in public service. Perhaps doing so can improve both the quality of our leaders and the work they do.

## Minority Opportunity News

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# Update: The federal bribery trial of Al Lipscomb

By Thomas Muhammad  
Contributing Writer

A lot of time has passed since Al Lipscomb was indicted on 65 counts of bribery and conspiracy charges. But lost in that time is the genesis of how we all came to this point. MON thought that it would help if we took a long look back and give its readers the benefit of its historical memory as well as do a current update on where things are to date.

We begin with an acknowledgement that, because of the long, active and public community life Lipscomb lived. A play by play of his entire involvement would be too numerous to cover here. Therefore we have listed for your review, a chronology of what we hope will help you look back and see that life, as you judge his current situation. Lipscomb has been a long time civil rights leader and his leaving the activist stage will no doubt leave a great void in our community. It also leaves some very large shoes to fill for those who seek to replace him as the city council representative in District 8.

Lipscomb's legal problems actually began three years ago on Monday, April 14, 1997 during the federal trial of former Dallas City Council member Paul Fielding. Fielding was charged with eight counts of extortion, fraud and lying to a bankruptcy court. Already under suspicion for being a front company, Lipscomb Industries, owned by councilman Lipscomb, was about to play a major roll in Fielding's case. During a March 29, 1997 pretrial hearing for Fielding, Lipscomb Industries was named by Assistant U.S. Attorney Michael Savage as one of several companies that Fielding often worked through as minority fronts. The company was one of several used by prosecutors, in an attempt to prove their extortion charges against Fielding. Lipscomb denied that his company was a front, and said Lipscomb Industries went out of business after creditors tried to force it into bankruptcy.

The company settles with three of its creditors for claims of more than \$100,000 and closes. After eight days of hearing testimony, which took place in Sherman Texas, Fielding resigned his city council seat and pled guilty to all counts. Fielding's guilty plea came soon after federal prosecutors played a tape in court provided by an FBI informant who had secretly taped a conversation during which council members Fielding and Lipscomb were plotting to form a minority front company to be controlled by Fielding, according to prosecutors. On the tape, played in court, Fielding could be heard saying "we have to set up a company for him (Lipscomb) and have the damn thing certified as a minority enterprise."

According to prosecutors, the conversation had been taped in November 1992 by the informant, who was wearing a recorder while the three men sat in the conference room behind Dallas City

Council chambers. Also on the tape Lipscomb could be heard discussing a possible name for the new company suggesting the name "A.L.L. Industries."

Prosecutors said that company finally became "Lipscomb Industries." On the tape Lipscomb also was quoted saying "I am the 800 pound gorilla. I can do it (set up the dummy company)." So, there it was, Lipscomb's trouble began, with a friend Paul Fielding, who he believed was trying to help him establish a business, however, it turned out, according to federal prosecutors, to be a front company.

Fielding is currently serving time in federal prison in Beaumont, Texas. He's scheduled to be released this year. His legal problems are over.

Lipscomb's have just begun.  
Fast forward.

After receiving a FBI "target letter" in February 1998, Lipscomb's close friends and supporters began to worry that his long time service to the community might be coming to an end. Target letters, according to legal experts are usually used by the federal government to inform suspects that they are under very serious investigation. The experts also say that most individuals who receive such letters are usually indicted.

On Thursday, March 4, 1999 the experts were proven right. Lipscomb along with Yellow Cab Co. and Checker Cab Co. owner Floyd Richards, were indicted on federal conspiracy bribery charges. The attorneys for both men, at the time, said they would plead not guilty and vowed to fight the charges. Richards was accused of secretly illegally funding most of Lipscomb's election costs in 1995, the indictment stated. He was also accused of continuing those illegal payments to Lipscomb after Lipscomb reclaimed the council seat he'd previously held from 1984 to 1993. In a stunning development that shocked the city and even after passing a polygraph examination (a lie detector) test in 1999 saying that he never conspired to influence Lipscomb's vote. On January 18, 2000 Richards testified in court under oath that he did in fact "pay Lipscomb for votes. Richards pleaded guilty to a single felony count of conspiracy. And as a part of his plea bargain to keep him out of prison, Richards agreed to cooperate with prosecutors against Lipscomb.

During the Dallas court hearing, Richards testified that he began making payments to Lipscomb in late 1994 or early 1995, while Lipscomb was off the council. He testified that he wanted Lipscomb to help him improve Yellow Cab's image among Blacks. Richards

said he had funneled more than \$20,000 into Lipscomb's 1995 council race because he believed that Lipscomb would better serve the city's interests than former council member Sandra Crenshaw, who at the time occupied the council seat. Once Lipscomb won, Richards continued to pay him \$1,000 cash payments each month. He said he also gave Lipscomb (during the race with Crenshaw) free taxi rides, cars and a cellular phone. Richards said he expected Lipscomb to support his position at City Hall because of the money and benefits given. He testified that in his opinion he believed that Lipscomb "understood that." Richards's change of testimony infuriated Lipscomb's supporters, many of which called for a boycott of Yellow Cab Co.

However, during his testimony in Amarillo, Lipscomb admitted that he in fact did receive \$1000 monthly cash payments from Richards, but that the payments were for consultant fees that began while he was not on the council, and that the payments continued after he won re-election. He admitted that he should have disclosed this on his campaign statements.

Indeed in his resignation statement Lipscomb admitted "I do not want to be a symbol or an advocate for the misguided and slothful



Former city councilman Al Lipscomb was sentenced to 41 months of home confinement resulting from bribery and conspiracy convictions. Lipscomb has held his council seat for most of the past 15 years.

practices I allowed myself to engage in over the last few years...the people rightly demand that their political leaders embrace the spirit and the letter of the law and if not suffer the consequences. Although I know in my heart that I never allowed the money and other gifts I have received from friends and supporters over the years to mar my judgment in any way, I feel now that many people simply cannot accept what I know to be the honest truth."

After Richards testimony, there was much speculation that Lipscomb would resign his council seat and plead guilty, however, Lipscomb rejected a government plea offer and opted to go to trial. The councilman continued to claim innocence.

Lipscomb's decision even shocked his lead attorney Billy Ravkind who, after hearing Judge Joe Kendall's decision to move the trial, to the City of Amarillo, felt that Lipscomb should plead guilty and take the prosecution's offer. Kendall transferred the trial to Amarillo citing pretrial coverage and Lipscomb's stature in the community. Neither the prosecutors nor Lipscomb's lawyers requested a transfer. Ravkind gave Lipscomb a 20 to 30 percent chance of gaining an acquittal in Amarillo. Lipscomb vowed to fight just the same during several days of testimony and a 48-hour closing argument delay due to

shortness of breath and an experience with heart trouble. On Tuesday, January 25, 2000 an all white jury found the embattled city councilman guilty on all 65 counts.

Back in Dallas after a grueling and difficult trial, Lipscomb announced his intentions to continue to serve on the city council while he fights his case on appeal. Judge Kendall wrote, in scheduling a detention hearing to determine whether Lipscomb should remain free pending sentencing, that he felt that he must also weigh, if Lipscomb's continuing to serve on the council might create a "danger to the community." The judge's ruling brought tremendous pressure on Lipscomb; because not only had he been convicted he was also being forced to vacate his city council seat. After long consultation with his attorneys, family and close friends, on Friday, February 4, 2000 a somber Lipscomb resigned from the council surrounded by many friends, family members and supporters in the Dallas City Hall Flag Room.

Lipscomb's resignation put in motion a hotly contested race for the seat. Running for office to finish out Lipscomb's council term is James Fantroy, Ruth Steward, Sandra Crenshaw and Joe Tave. The race has already created heated fireworks and most political experts believe it will go down to the wire as a close one.

As for councilman Lipscomb, he was feted by many close friends and supporters at the Black Academy of Arts & Letters a week after his resignation. The event brought together hundreds of supporters and raised nearly \$5,000. However, because he failed to appear at a sentencing hearing scheduled for April 10th, Judge Kendall revoked his bond and ordered him to be held at the Federal Medical Center in Fort Worth, Texas. Kendall questioned in a written order whether Lipscomb was really too ill to attend the sentencing hearing. The judge also revealed the range of punishment calculated in a federal probation report as being appropriate for Lipscomb. The judge released a punishment finding in a range of 41 to 51 months. The judge's decision to revoke Lipscomb's bond and send him to a federal prison before being sentenced sparked out rage in the African-American community.

A Lipscomb support rally was held at Friendship West Baptist Church where supporters drew nearly 1000 people and raised more than 18,000 dollars. Protests were being planned for in front of the Earl Cable Federal Court Building where Judge Kendall presides. Dallas County Commissioner John Wiley Price, a Lipscomb supporter, announced April 24th during his birthday bash that he will be leading protest and pickets of Kendall's house and neighborhood after Lipscomb is sentenced. It would appear that Lipscomb, the most visible civil rights leader in the city, would be out of sight but hardly out of mind, for some time to come.

...continued on page 7



## Area mothers participate in march against gun violence

By Latrina George

Across the country mothers are daily kissing scraped knees, consoling broken hearts, teaching young ones right from wrong, and, yes, even holding households together. Made of sheer determination, a mother dares to shield her children from the evils of the world. And when she can no longer harbor them underneath her wings, she sets forth to try and change their surroundings making it conducive for productive growth that's vitally needed for a safe passage into adulthood.

One determined mother, Donna Dees-Thomases, in the fall of 1999, decided to try and make the world a safer place for her children and the hundreds of thousands other children across the United States. While watching media coverage of the Granada Hills Day Camp massacre, she vowed that her children would remain untouched by gun violence and her hope was to mesh her passion along with others who desired the same to keep kids safe. Therefore, she began the Million Mom March.

Donna Dees-Thomases conceived the idea for the Million Mom March in her home in New Jersey, but Dees-Thomases is joined nationwide by women and their families who are working together to plan the national Million Mom March rally in Washington, D.C. as well as numerous local events in a number of cities throughout the country. Several miniature rallies will be held at many of the countries state capitols and cities including Austin and Fort Worth, Texas.

The Million Mom March is a movement of mothers from all over the country who have joined together to demand sensible gun laws that protect children. This group of mothers and other supporters has lost children, husbands, siblings and friends to gun violence or gun accidents. So, on May 14, 2000, Mothers Day, mothers, honorary mothers, fathers, grandparents and children will attend events all over the country in an attempt to spread their message: Congress must take responsible action this session by passing sensible gun laws.

"We are not asking Congress to ban guns," says Elise Bradford, one of the Million Mom March Volunteers for Fort Worth. "We

are advocating certain principles that everyone can support. We want reasonable, sensible gun laws such as extensive background checks and licensing."

In addition to background checks and licensing, the Million Mom March is asking Congress to require all guns and ammunition to meet product safety standards such as:

- No military-style assault weapons should be allowed in civilian hands.

- Every semi-automatic pistol should have a prominent indicator that clearly identifies the presence of a round in the firing chamber.

- Every gun should have a grip safety or other similar device to prevent small children from pulling the trigger, even if the gun is unlocked. Locking devices should be integrated into the design of every new gun, so an unauthorized user cannot make it fire.

- No gun should fire when dropped or bumped.

After losing her own son to gun violence six years ago, Bradford notes that all of the supporters of the Million Mom March have been affected in some way by gun violence. "Gun violence has no color," states Bradford. "It affects an entire family and it extends into the community."

According to Bradford, the Million Mom March is basically mothers taking a stand against gun violence. "It's not a political rally," asserts Bradford. "We want to send a strong message to Congress. We want them to be responsible for enacting laws that will protect not only our children, but our spouses, families and friends."

Supporters of the Million Mom March are asked to meet at the Tarrant County Courthouse in Fort Worth on May 14, 2000 at 2:00 p.m. The march will conclude at the Ft. Worth Convention Center, the site of bi-weekly guns shows, at 3:00 p.m. At the convention center, speakers will call for a moratorium on gun shows at city-owned facilities.

Bradford says that the Million Mom March will not disband after the events are concluded on May 14th. "We will continue to work as a local group together to enforce safer gun laws for our children. We will be there to ensure legislation is enacted to help our children have a bright future."

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...continued from page 5

### Al Lipscomb Chronology

1925-Born Albert Louis Lipscomb in East Dallas  
 1942-Lipscomb graduates from Lincoln High School  
 1943-Joins the Army and serves in California with the military police  
 1945-Discharged from Army, Lipscomb is arrested and serves 10 months in jail for selling drugs.  
 1950-He returns to Dallas, marries Lovie and becomes a headwaiter in the executive dining room of First National Bank.  
 1966-He becomes a neighborhood organizer for the Dallas County Community Action Committee (DCCAC).  
 Late 1960s and early 1970s-He helps homeowners protect their homes from Fair Park expansion takeover.  
 1971-Becomes the first Black to run for Dallas mayor. His bid forces a run off which is won by Wes Wise. Lipscomb and others file lawsuit against city's at-large system of government.  
 1972-He runs unsuccessfully for Dallas County Commissioner.  
 1973-He runs unsuccessfully for a City Council seat. (He also ran unsuccessfully in 1975 and 1983)  
 1974-He runs unsuccessfully for a Dallas School Board seat and lost to Kathryn Gilliam.  
 1975-A federal court declares the city's at-large system of government unconstitutional and orders single-member districts.  
 1984-Along with Diane Ragsdale, Lipscomb was first elected to a city council seat replacing Fred Blair.  
 1991-He is elected mayor pro tem by fellow council members.  
 1992-He drops the Democratic Party and supports Ross Perot for an independent bid for president.  
 1993-Because of term limits he leaves city council and forms Lipscomb Industries.  
 1994-Lipscomb Industries bid's on a city chlorine contract and persuades the council to scrap higher bids. After the contract goes to another bidder the city council passes an ethics rule prohibiting former members from doing business with the city for a year after leaving public office.  
 1995-Lipscomb beats incumbent Sandra Crenshaw to win his old council seat.  
 1996-Lipscomb Industries is forced into bankruptcy. Settles with creditors.  
 1997-Lipscomb's friend Paul Fielding resigns and pleads guilty to federal charges.  
 1998-Lipscomb receives "target letter" from FBI.  
 1999-Lipscomb is indicted with Yellow Cab and Checker Co. owner Floyd Richards.  
 1999-Lipscomb is re-elected to his council seat by a landslide.  
 1999-December, U.S. Judge Joe Kendall moves Lipscomb's trial to Amarillo Texas.  
 2000-January 18, Richards testifies he paid monthly \$1,000 cash payments to Lipscomb for favors.  
 2000-January 19, Lipscomb takes stand and admits accepting money from Richards but maintains that he did not do it for favors.  
 2000-January 21, arriving at court for the closing arguments. Lipscomb complains of experiencing difficulty in breathing and is rushed to the hospital. Kendall delays arguments and jury deliberations.  
 2000-January 25, Lipscomb is found guilty on all 65 counts.  
 2000-February 4, In a crowded City Hall Flag Room councilman Lipscomb resigns.  
 2000-February-12, Supporters hold fundraiser for Lipscomb at Black Academy of Arts & Letters. They raise nearly \$5,000.  
 2000-April 4, Lipscomb is admitted into St. Paul Hospital for breathing difficulty.  
 2000-April 12, Judge Kendall revokes Lipscomb's bond and orders him removed from St. Paul and held at Federal

Medical Center in Fort Worth Texas.

2000-April 16, Lipscomb supporters outraged by Kendall's actions holds massive rally of nearly 1000 at Friendship West Baptist Church, raise over \$18,000.

2000-April 24-26 "Friends of Al Lipscomb" hold pickets and protest at Earl Cabel building where Kendall presides.

2000-April 27 Lipscomb sentenced to 41 months home confinement.

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# National Conference of Black Mayors 2000

## Workshops assist mayors in community leadership

By Latrina George

African-American mayors hailing from all over the country convened this week in Dallas for the National Conference of Black Mayors. The conference has encouraged business relationships and support foundations for the mayors and has provided a wealth of knowledge that each mayor can take back to their respective cities. The mayors have attended workshops and seminars specifically designed to assist them in successfully leading the many households and communities they represent. One such workshop the mayors attended is "Expanding the Franchise: New Drivers for Economic Development." Collectively, all of the mayors agree that a successful city in the 21st Century will be the one that goes above and beyond the norm to improve the "quality of life" for its residents. The city that pursues ways to expand tax-based revenue while creating employment opportunity is a key component to achieving its goals.

The workshop the mayors attended, "Expanding the Franchise: New Drivers for Economic Development", explored whether or not franchises can be useful in economic development. The panel of speakers included mayors, franchisees, and other organizations interested in supporting the expansion of franchises. Mayor Ron Kirk of Dallas kicked the workshop off by declaring what an incredible opportunity franchises offer a city. "You build your taxed-based revenue," says Kirk. "And there's been enough research shown that once you train and market this work force, they are more loyal. They will stay in the city more often than not."

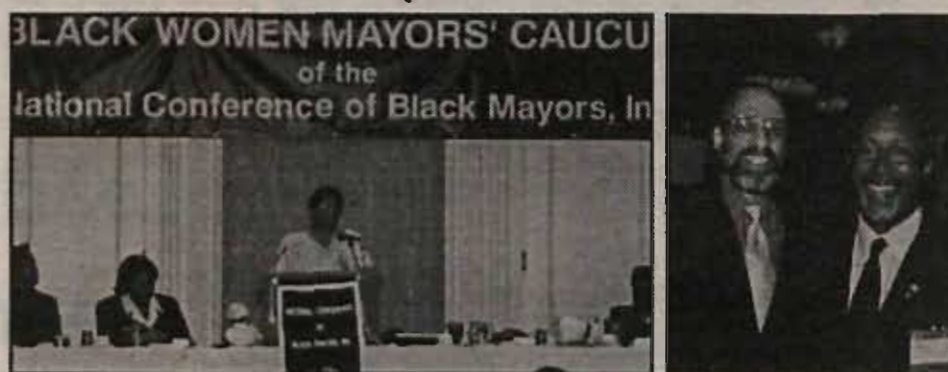
While Dallas has a population of 1,053,292 (28.20 % African-American), there were many cities represented,

such as Waxahachie, Texas that have far fewer residents, but are still able to benefit from the expansion of franchises. Charles Beatty, mayor of Waxahachie, says that though smaller than its "big brother", Dallas, Waxahachie is positioned in a unique place that encourages economic development through franchises. "We are located along a major corridor, Interstate 35," states Beatty. "We are self-contained in a business friendly environment and we market our city as if it were as big as Dallas."

According to Beatty, creating a vision, fashioning a plan for that vision and calling upon the individuals who will help the dream become a reality is important. "You want to encourage people to bring their dreams and visions to your city, then you want to bring the income up to the dream," says Beatty. "Franchises are an easy way to create wealth and grow loyal corporate citizens - those who will give back to the community such as sponsoring little leagues or youth organizations."

Reiterating what Mayor Beatty stated, Milton Sanders, President-Owner of M.D.S. Investment Corp. and J.F.S. International, Inc., who has also operated a KFC franchise with (8) KFC units located in the Atlanta and South Georgia markets since 1982 stated that it's important that the businesses and franchises remain in the community. He also adds that it is equally important that the money remains in the community. "We are looking to turn our dollars at least three times. We want to keep our dollars in our community, not spend them elsewhere."

Sanders quoted from a 1999 study of Black income from Target Marketing News that the Black earning power is



(Right) Dallas Mayor Ron Kirk encouraged mayors to develop relationships with franchisees within their respective cities. (Left) National President of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Marcia Fudge addressed participants of the Black Women Mayor's Caucus. The theme of the caucus was "Leadership for a New Century".

\$600 billion. "We are in a position now to control our economic opportunities," adds Sanders. "From hip hoppers to grandpas, from preachers to teachers, we must meet our consumers at the end of our own block, not at the block thirty minutes away."

The group of mayors also received vital information from LISC. LISC is the acronym for Local Initiatives Support Corporation. LISC is a non-profit community development intermediary that supplies financial and technical assistance to community development corporations in 43 cities and metropolitan areas across the nation.

Angela Brown, Director of the Jobs and Income Program for LISC, states that cities should focus on franchises because they: (1) Turn the dollar around several times in the community, (2) There is a higher success rate than independent business owners, and (3) There is a local ownership piece.

Brown says LISC is set up to introduce novices to the world of business ownership. "We support the individual

who has never had a business of his own. We match participating franchisees to interested franchise investors, assist investors to select a franchise opportunity and we make franchise loans to the franchisee." And to ensure the success of the franchise, the franchiser supplies a proven business concept that in some cases carry a brand name that's easily recognizable by the consumer. And the most important part to ensure a successful franchise is support to the franchisee.

"We look to the franchiser for benefits such as field support where someone from the franchiser comes out and visits the owner to ensure that everything is operating as it should and assist the owner if he/she has questions."

The workshop was concluded with a question and answer session where mayors had the opportunity to express and discuss any individual concerns relative to their city involving franchises and/or other business that increase economic development.

# Radio show mixes fun with fundraising

By Charles West

What was thought to be just a basic meeting of mayors discussing issues and topics with one of America's top radio personalities was found to be much more than just that. The nationally syndicated Tom Joyner Morning Show broadcasted live from the 2000 National Conference of Black Mayors (NCBM), which was held at the Wyndam Anatole Hotel.

Mayors from all over the country were in attendance at 5:00 a.m. as Joyner stated his intent to show the NCBM how to party and still accomplish a mission. That mission being first, to help the Tom Joyner Foundation, his non-profit organization, to raise money to support Paul Quinn, a local black college. His meaning of party referred to the live, entertaining and grooving sounds of "WAR".

WAR was in the house; as they announced that they were recording live for their next album, the crowd of mayors shouted in excitement.

Joyner, who was accompanied by national comedian Jay Anthony Brown, and radio personality Myra J. were truly entertaining. There were old school dance contests, prizes and give-a-ways, and camera spotlights of the crowd.

In between satirical comedy spots



Radio personality Tom Joyner receives a check for \$10,000 from the Richardson/Plano Guide Right Foundation. This check along with others from various organizations will benefit Paul Quinn College in Dallas. The event raised over \$60,000 for the school.

by Brown and music sets by WAR, Joyner was presented with over \$60,000 from sponsors such as Coca Cola, Blockbuster, the McDonald Foundation, and the Richardson/Plano Guide Right Foundation, just to name a few.

Wellington E. Webb was the first to stand before the crowd of 1500 plus and thank Joyner for being a positive force within the community and using his platform to help better the community.

Also to take the stage was Dallas Mayor Ron Kirk, who addressed "Seatbelt Safety". Mayor Kirk along with Transportation Secretary Rodney E. Slater talked about how African-Americans are being killed in motor vehicles due to seatbelt negligence. "The key is to Buckle Up..." said Mayor Kirk.

Numerous community leaders and business owners were also present to show their interest and support in the NCBM, such as DISD Secretary Ron Price, Texas State Senator Royce West, Joyce Strickland-executive director of Mothers Against Teen Violence, and Emma Rodgers of Black Images Bookstore.



## Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee: Organization sets tone of Civil Rights Movement

By Janel Burrell

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times..." Charles Dickens uses these statements to set the mood of his book *A Tale of Two Cities*. While his story was set during the French Revolution, the same words could have been used to describe America's Civil Rights Era.

During the 1960s, the Civil Rights Movement produced several groups of activists. One such group was the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), also called "Snick". SNCC was formed in 1960 at a Raleigh, NC meeting called by Martin Luther King, Jr., then leader of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC). Activist Stokely Carmichael helped organize the organization along with King.

SNCC originally consisted of black and white college students nationwide as a response to the student sit-in movement in 1960. Like the SCLC and CORE before them, the SNCC also adopted the Gandhian theories of nonviolent civil disobedience. The group organized peaceful protests and demonstrations to speed desegregation in the South.

During the height of the Civil Rights Movement in 1963, 23-year-old John Lewis was elected Chairman of SNCC. During his term the SNCC was at its most active period. Lewis actively involved the organization in the various activities in the struggle for civil rights including sit-ins, the Birmingham demonstrations and a major speech at the August 1963 March on Washington by Lewis himself.

In 1964, the organization sponsored The Mississippi Summer Project, which earned them national prominence in the Movement. This massive project assembled approximately 800 hundred volunteers in the Deep South to participate in voter education registration and citizenship education drives.

The tone and direction of the organization took a turn in 1966 when Stokely Carmichael was elected chairman. Carmichael, already a militant activist in the struggle, was frustrated and had become impatient with the slow progress being made through nonviolent protests. He called for a campaign to achieve Black Power and to fight the "white power" that had oppressed Blacks. He urged Blacks to gain political and economic control of their own communities and rejected much of SNCC's white support. Under his leadership, the SNCC became the first civil rights organization to oppose U.S. involvement in the Vietnam War. His term marked the radicalization of the group and identified the SNCC with the militant Black Power Movement. Carmichael's actions and beliefs led to the resignation of many of the group's key leaders.

Carmichael resigned in 1967 and H. Rap Brown succeeded him, which marked an even greater shift toward militarism. Brown's election, coupled with support of the Arab position during the Arab-Israeli War, cut off virtually all funding from white liberal supporters. The organization changed its name to Student National Coordinating Committee in 1969, but was disbanded in 1970 due to loss of leadership and funds.

The leaders of the Student Nonviolent Coordination Committee maintained the determination and drive exhibited during the Civil Rights Era. Each of the leaders continued to fight for the rights of African-Americans in their perspective areas. John Lewis remained a devoted advocate of the philosophy of nonviolence. After various positions, he was elected to Congress in 1986 as a representative of Georgia. He has maintained that position and become Chief Deputy Majority Whip, one of the top ranking positions in the House of Representatives.

Stokely Carmichael, who changed his name to Kwame Ture moved to Guinea in 1969 and founded the All African People's Revolutionary Party. For the rest of his life he gave speeches around the world to mostly black audiences preaching Black Power and socialism. Ture died at the age of 57 from cancer in Guinea, West Africa. Upon his death, Rep. Maxine Waters expressed her feelings about Ture. "He changed the way African-Americans are viewed in this country," said Waters.

"He was bold, he dared to confront the establishment and fought for the right for African-Americans to have justice. He was part of the black is beautiful movement and captured the imagination of young people," Waters said.

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**John  
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## What every investor should know about market corrections

There is no way around it...markets are cyclical!

While historically the stock market has spent more time being bullish than bearish, which is why stocks have been a good investment over the years, the market does retrench more than the average investor would like. The traditional definition of a bear market is a 20% or greater decline in stock prices as measured by the Dow Jones Industrial Average. A full-fledged bear market can persist for many months or, in rare cases, years.

Since 1950, the average drop in bear markets has been 24%, while the average length has been eight months. The worst bear market in both magnitude and duration since 1950 was a 21-month period in 1973-74 when the Dow fell 48% from its high. More recently the Dow retreated roughly 10% from its high over a seven-month period in 1994 and in March-April 1997.

Although the securities industry is committed to doing everything in its power to protect investors, it cannot prevent market corrections. It is essential for investors to take responsibility for their own success and to arm themselves with as much knowledge as possible about the risks and potential rewards of investing.

In the 1930s, the Cowles Commission was formed to guide investors through the aftermath of the 1929 crash. It came up with five essential rules for successful investing, which are still applicable today.

**Invest for the long term.** While the stock market can be risky over the short term, it is important to realize that risk decreases as your investment time horizon lengthens. A good rule of thumb is that stock and bond investments should be funded with money you won't need for at least five years.

Some investors hope to improve their returns by selling a portion of their holdings in anticipation of a correction. This is called "market timing." Timing the market is something even professional investors find difficult to do well with any consistency and is not recommended for the average investor.

**Invest systematically.** One way to avoid the timing dilemma is to use a simple strategy called dollar-cost averaging—the practice of investing a fixed amount of money in a particular investment at regular intervals. Because the amount invested remains constant, the investor buys more shares when the price is low and fewer shares when the price is high. This means that the average cost per share is always lower than the average market value of the investment over the same period.

**Diversify investments.** When people think about investing their money, they probably envision themselves

comparing the merits of various individual securities or mutual funds. But before they get to that step, there is an even more basic decision to make—and that is asset allocation. Asset allocation is just the percentage of investment funds that an investor decides to allocate to each of the four primary classes: stocks, fixed income, cash equivalents, and tangibles/real estate. Of course, a ssett allocatin/investment timing cannot eliminate the risk of fluctuating rices and uncertain returns.

**Buy quality.** Periodically, investors become enamored with initial public offerings (IPOs). For those who know how to play them and understand the risks, IPOs can offer outstanding opportunities. However, IPOs involve companies whose stocks are untested in public trading. The average investor should, therefore, approach this arena with extreme caution and commit no more than a small percentage of investment capital to it.

At the other end of the spectrum are the many companies with a history of consistent sales and earnings growth. Although nothing is guaranteed in the investment markets, investors can be reasonably sure that such companies will not drop off the investment map during a correction. Rather, a correction presents them the opportunity to acquire more shares of seasoned, financially sound companies at reasonable prices.

**Get professional advice.** Each investor brings a different outlook and level of sophistication to the markets. However, most investors can benefit from some degree of professional input. Whether this is research on individual securities, advice on asset allocation, or entrusting money to mutual funds and asset managers to benefit from professional portfolio management, investment professionals stand ready to help investors achieve their financial goals.

Particularly during corrections, it helps to have a coherent investment strategy worked out in advance and to be able to keep that strategy clearly in mind as events unfold. A qualified investment professional can play a key role both in helping the investor develop a plan and especially in helping the investor stick to it when the going gets tough.

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**Ron  
Shaw**

## "Don't Just Get Paid, Get Purpose"

- 1 Sam. 17

I talk to so many people these days about their financial welfare. We have financial counselors at our church to help those who desire help with budgets, personal planning, savings, check-book management and a number of other issues that affect how prosperous a person is. I am told one of the most common discoveries made when helping people in this area is that God actually has provided what they needed and most times some of what they desired. The issue is not Him, but them. They usually mismanage what they have.

Another common mistake is poor decision making. They go after the wrong things, buy at the wrong time, buy the wrong things, or listen to the wrong people. Well, most of the questions I get have to do with getting more. Everyone is concerned with "no money". Most are so focused on getting more that they miss an important key to prosperity.

It's no secret to those who know me. I preach that if you were poor and broke when you came to Christ, and start living by His word, your life should get better, including financially. I don't mean to say that He's going to give you a million dollars, but you certainly should have a better quality of life. Many times I find that people want a crown but don't want a cross. They want to get over but don't want to get down. They want the compensation without the confrontation.

As Christians, we should not make getting paid the top priority in our lives but rather getting purpose. Jesus said not to worry about things because God knows you need things to get along in this world. Our goal should be to seek His Kingdom and it's righteousness. I've been spending a lot of time studying David. He intrigues me because there are so many truths to be learned from his story.

In the story of David's battle with Goliath, there are some issues I want you to see and settle. The king promised that whoever would go up and fight Goliath, would gain his father's house free and clear, get his daughter's hand in marriage thus becoming member of the royal family and would get rich.

First realize that every man in the army knew what the rewards were but were unwilling to take the risk. There are a lot of people who never take any risk. They have few if any rewards. I'm amazed at how many people never realize there can be no dividends without an investment. The reason you didn't get any dividend checks may have been because you didn't invest anything. Growing up in Hamilton Park, I realized that the guys who always had the prettiest girls were the guys who were not afraid to run the risk of having

their face cracked. Many people when faced with a challenge ask, "what if I lose?" Eventually they do! Others see a challenge and ask, "What if I win?" Eventually they do!

Secondly, don't be compensation minded. Be victory minded. A lot of people only think about the money and end up losing. I've been told that only those who are below average achievers want guarantees. A person who has a winning conscience never needs a guarantee because they know they will eventually end up with everything they ever wanted. David asked once "what did the king promise the person who would go get Goliath?" David's love for God cause him to be offended at Goliath's insults. He wasn't money minded or prestige minded. He was victory minded. If you are victory minded, you don't have to worry about stuff because it will come. On your job, in your home, at school or wherever you find your challenges, learn this principle.

Thirdly, always run toward the confrontation rather than the compensation. If you handle the confrontation right, you will be compensated. After David defeats Goliath, he was richly compensated. The Bible says David ran toward Goliath. While he was running toward him, he wasn't thinking "no money...no money". He wasn't thinking about the King's daughter singing, "she's a brick house." According to the passage, he was thinking, "The battle is the Lord's and victory is mine". Handling the confrontation correctly delivered all the compensation he could ever ask for. Concentrate on being victorious in every confrontation and in every challenge and you'll eventually end up with all the compensation you will know what to do with.

Finally, don't let your believing God get in the way of your believing the God in you. This means that most Christians have no problem believing in God. God is able. God can do anything we say. Anything except work through us. David didn't pray. He pursued. When we believe in God, we don't do anything but sit and wait on God to do something and thus victory escapes us. When we believe in God's ability to work through us, we run towards our challenges with the confidence of knowing He will give them into our hands. David had to pick up the rocks! David had to fire the rocks from his sling! David had to go get the sword, and David had to cut Goliath's head off. That's believing in God's ability to use you and work through and in you.

So stop being money minded and become victory minded. The successful confrontation of your challenges and problems, even your giants, will deliver the compensation you need and more than what you desire!



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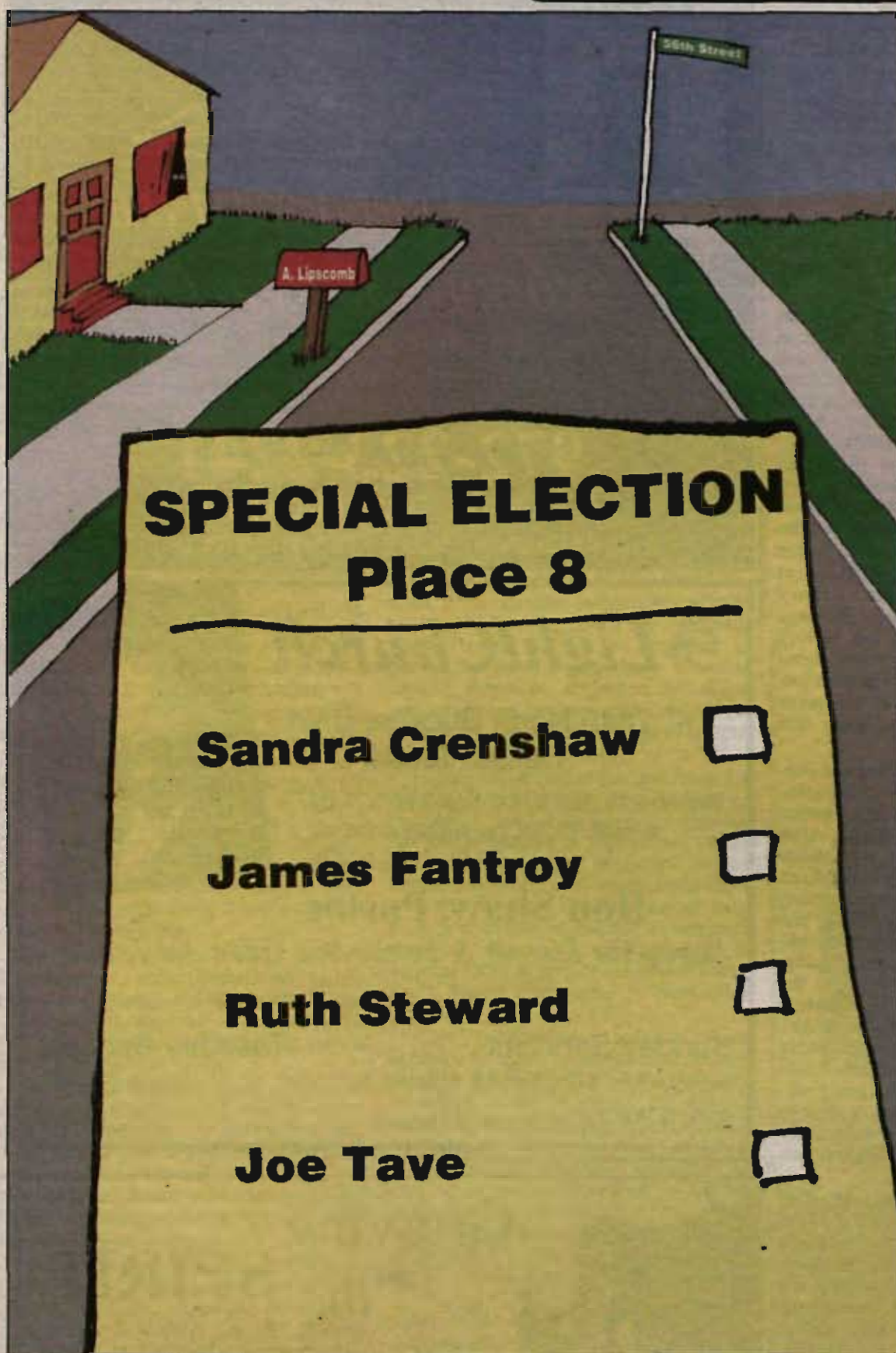
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## DISTRICT 8 RESIDENTS TO VOTE FOR AL LIPSCOMB REPLACEMENT

*Fireworks Ignite As May 6 Special  
Election Draws Closer*

By Glenda Williams Goodson

Even City of Dallas officials couldn't answer simple inquiries of where boundaries of District 8 officially begin and end. The District map shows it crossing I-30, I-20, I-45, the 310 S.M. Wright Freeway, pushing to the Southwest to Duncanville (Southwest Center Mall) to Kleberg then Southeast touching Lancaster-Hutchins, east to Balch Springs passing St. Augustine/Old Seagoville and north to I30.

Oak Cliff covers an area with enormous opportunities, like an adolescent who's come of age, ready to demand a real voice in the adult world of big money, high finance and the rough and tumble world of Dallas politics. Who should she choose to show her the ropes? The old guard with the casual elegance of the well connected or new suitors hungry to prove themselves and that they can make a difference? The four candidates left in the race after the disqualification of one and withdrawal of another candidate say they have the answer to bring the to make a difference in the communities that make up District 8. They are former city council woman Sandra Crenshaw, community leader James Fantroy, Precinct Judge Ruth Steward and DISD schoolteacher Joe Tave.

It's early morning in the Arden Terrace addition of South Oak Cliff and 56th and Veterans past Ledbetter is a beehive of activity as cranes and earth moving machines groan along the street tearing up the road. The renovations are symbolic of a district upheaval City of Dallas Place 8 has gone through since the January 2000 resignation of long time activist and city council member Al Lipscomb under charges of bribery and conspiracy. He has since been sentenced to 41 months of home confinement. The voting in the City of Dallas Special Election to find a replacement to serve out his term will be held May 6. The race is heated and rife with recriminations, demonstrations at local forums (which some call staged) and charges of phone tapping and harassment by some candidates.

There are sidewalks lining the streets on East Pentagon Parkway and the City of Dallas donated trees that the community planted last April. Much of what was done was the legacy of Councilman Lipscomb but according to Mary Watkins, Arden Terrace Neighborhood Association President, it was Sandra Crenshaw who was ultimately the one "responsible for getting the 56th improved." "I was not fortunate enough to work with Mr. Lipscomb," says the 2000 Southeast Division Crime Watch Awardee, "but Ms. Crenshaw not only drove the effort to get parkway light, drive the Bonnie View median beautification project, but she worked very hard for the constituents of the area."

Crenshaw says all district residents have to do is look to her record as a freshman council member (1993-1995) to place her back on the council to fight for their rights. In fact, the Texas Southern University graduate says "I nominated more District 8 residents to boards and commissions such as the Landmark Board, Library Board, Community Block Development Board ever in the history of the district."

Crenshaw, called a traitor by some local politicians, fires a volley at those who would question her integrity. Of the police being called to the forum (KNON's Morning Line Talk Show) held 4/11 at the Tommie Allen Recreation Center she said, "I am determined (to stay in this race). John Wiley Price, who I think is worthless to the community...I'm not afraid to tell people that... wanted to keep me from talking and I kept on. He feels that everyone must submit to him and I won't." She's confident that voters will bring her back to finish the job she started to jump start the district's sluggish economy.

Saying she "will always admire Al Lipscomb, who, although (he) never had the anointment of the white or black establishment and built his constituency one by one," she will build upon her accomplishments to bring economic development to the area. "First of all we have to make our community attractive to retain and attract development. We have to clean it up and we have to get some funds to provide the proper infrastructure. I negotiated to include the north-



ern portion of that area into that CDBG from Ledbetter to Five Mile and also negotiated for sidewalks and paving for Arden Terrace. My work is my ministry and God sustains me. My focus and obligation will be to make it a priority to work for that which will serve a greater benefit to the public."

James Fantroy doesn't agree.

Well connected to Dallas political leaders he says Sandra Crenshaw doesn't have the endorsement of the area residents. MON caught up with him at the KNON forum. The Precinct Judge for Highland Hills #3371 stated "I know District 8 better than any of the candidates having been

a resident of the area over 42 years and a precinct judge for 12 years." His litany of Dallas power brokers who have endorsed him is impressive: Lee Alcorn, Joe Bagby, John Wiley Price, Hollis Brashear, Brenda Field, Luther Edwards, Dr. Lee Monroe, Don Hicks, Gerald Larry, the Honorable Thomas Jones, Darren Regan and the family of Al Lipscomb. He says his endorsements along should say something to voters that he can get the job done.

But those endorsements are also a result of what he says are years of hard work in the community. "The purpose of getting into the election is to serve District 8." The father of six has been married for over 40 years and says he has a personal interest in the improvement of the community not only for his grandchildren but other children in the area. "We need basic services such as better code compliance, reduction in crime, more presence of police officers, better streets and sanitation services."

He counts hard won victories as an impetus demonstrating to voters that his experience is necessary to effectuate change in the district. "As a member of the 15 member CPC board they wanted to put a prison in the community and I killed it...as well as the Arrow Trucking Company's move into the area." Area citizens resisted the trucking company's presence in the area because of their opposition of making South Oak Cliff an industrial area rather than an urban mixture of businesses, restaurants, single and multi-family dwellings.

Not only is Fantroy the longtime owner of J.L. Security, and Fantroy Investments (he owns an apartment complex in Oak Cliff) he claims that he is the founder of Care Car, the precursor to the DART Handy Ride. The Fairfield, Texas native says economic development in District 8 is sorely lacking (there is no major grocery store south of Ledbetter) and when voters place him on the Dallas City Council they will have someone "committed to serving the community."

Serving the community means being as accessible to the community once a person is

entrusted in a public office as when they went door-to-door soliciting votes. Ruth Steward, a precinct judge for over 20 years, went into politics in the last election for two reasons. The first was she was "dissatisfied with the representation that our area had. I felt that I was the better choice because I was the only one who spoke against (Mr. Lipscomb)." She claims that initially he held monthly meetings at Beckley-Saner for constituents but became frozen since focus was on his legal problems. "I felt he was not doing his job because he was sick a lot, having a lot of legal problems and couldn't focus to do the job he was elected to do."

According to Steward, candidates such as Fantroy have surged ahead because of the money he's spent and has more political backing (he evokes the name of John Wiley Price who has sent a support letter to voters). She's counting on the fact that she struck a chord in the minds of voters last election when she garnered 21% of the votes after stating she campaigned only two weeks. "I bring integrity to the table," she says. "We have an image as being bad in the

residents about their concerns. "In the St. Augustine/Old Seagoville Road area there's a problem where the City of Mesquite has a landfill dump. People are very unhappy. Why won't Mesquite dump their trash in their own city? Maybe Dallas made the decision (to ignore citizen complaints) because the city is making so much money. The smell is awful."

She says in other District 8 neighborhoods, key issues for residents in neighborhoods such as Sema Village (off of Camp wisdom between I35 and Houston School Road) are simple to fix. "They have only one way into the community and one way out and solving that problem doesn't take much money," she says with conviction.

A blow to communities such as the Red Bird area is that "the biggest problem is a lot of the apartment complexes are full of drugs. We only have so many police officers for our area to cover a very wide area. I believe our police officers are doing the best that they can. As I sated in the NAACP meeting we are going to have to help."

Steward understands she is not the "favorite son" but believes she will win the election. To her, the best is ahead for Oak Cliff's District 8 "I am currently involved in planning further development of Oak Cliff. I want the voters to know that I will be a full time councilperson. I grew up in Dallas, and while most people have stated they only want to serve this year, I have a personal stake in the area and will be in for the long haul."

Joe Tave knows first hand how city services can benefit the area. "While I was out placing signs on the corner I left my truck on for no more than 3 minutes. When I turned around my truck was ripping down the street."

Tave is a DISD educator at Grady Spruce High School and has great experience confronting youth to push toward excellence. His vision is inclusive of all who want to make a difference in the community and integrate diverse ideas to problem solving. "District 8 needs honest dialogue. I've called for several debates with Mr. Fantroy but he won't rise to the challenge." He believes in order for the

District to move forward the community must work together. "I am a consensus builder and my contribution on the Civil Service Board demonstrates my effectiveness in getting things done."

Whoever wins the bid has a mammoth job in that there are many pressing issues the area faces. Dallas' booming economy has not translated to many District 8 residents who are living on the margins while others require an injection of the economic development taken for granted in other districts.



Joe Tave



Al Lipscomb

Southern part of Dallas. There are a lot of people who are retired, paying taxes, law-abiding citizens. We need to start acting like a community and our neighborhood is going to be better. As a city council person I will have neighborhood meetings and go out to talk to the people."

Steward declares there is too much at stake for the counterproductive bickering among politicians and contradictory to the challenges of elected officials - that is spending time resolving chronic problems of the district. "When I entered (the NAACP Candidate Forum at the Singing Hills Recreation Center) I was stunned while at the same time I thought it was really hilarious. (Ms. Crenshaw had) fifteen police squad cards just to stop someone from booing her from speaking. There were only five people booing." Stating that the neighborhoods are crying for a greater police presence she wonders, "Are there some of us who are more important than we think we are?"

Ironically, Steward says she and Crenshaw have been members of the same homeowners organization for over twenty years and acknowledges that Crenshaw splits her vote. "The voters have to decide who will work harder for them." She says her focus is broad in that she has gone out into the district and talked to



Sandra Crenshaw



Ruth Steward



James Fantroy



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# The Wellness Diary

## Breast center bridges healthcare gap

By Delmetria L. Millener

According to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, approximately 1.8 million women and 12,000 are diagnosed with breast cancer. It is projected that this year, about 43,300 women and 400 men will die of the disease. Studies reveal that more American women are diagnosed with the disease than any other form of cancer, and "breast cancer is second only to lung cancer in cancer deaths. For women ages 35-54, breast cancer is the leading cause of death.

Additionally, according to an article from the American Journal of Clinical Oncology, Black women may get breast cancer 10 years earlier than their white counterparts. Also these cancers tend to be less responsive to hormone therapy options. According to the study, of the total 738 patients involved, the statistics strongly suggest a difference based on race. Medical professionals suggest that women of color consider early mammogram screening. This is particularly important if one or more first-degree relatives (mother, aunt, and sisters) have had breast cancer.

Many of these statistics, or people, are uninsured or underinsured. Furthermore, a study published July 1993 in The New England Journal of Medicine stated "...that women without private health care insurance who have breast cancer receive this diagnosis later and die sooner than privately insured women with breast cancer."

Also, "uninsured women are 50% more likely to die of breast cancer than insured women according to Uninsured in America by the Kaiser Family Foundation, 1998," reports the Bridge. Is it safe to call America the land of opportunity, when many Americans do not have a decent opportunity to be treated for sicknesses and life threatening diseases because of a lack of medical insurance?

Enter the Bridge Breast Center. It is the Bridge Breast Center's mission "to save lives." The Center prides itself on being able to offer diagnostic and clinical evaluations, biopsies, surgery, imaging, chemotherapy, radiation oncology and SOS (Survivors Offering Support) services to uninsured, underinsured, and low-income women.

In 1992, Sally Knox, a medical doctor and breast specialist, treated uninsured women in her medical practice, but needed financial means to fund surgery centers. In 1992, Kathy LaTour and a group of breast cancer survivors raised the necessary funds, and together with Dr. Knox, founded the Bridge and have since served 1,800 women. Of those women, 165 had breast cancer.

Housing a professional staff of two, Mary Morris, CAE, executive director, and Amy Hackney, LSW, client services coordinator, the Bridge is readily available to provide breast exams for women at risk, and those who think

they may be at risk for breast cancer. Also devoting time to the Center is Carol Tomasz, the Bridge's part time administrative assistant.

According to Bridge representatives, volunteers at the Bridge include "medical professionals such as anesthesiologists, radiologists, pathologists, surgeons, medical and radiation oncologists, plastic surgeons and nurses," while other volunteers are board and committee members, and professionals donating specific services."

Located in Dallas, Texas, the Bridge Breast Center has a complete medical provider network in Dallas, Denton, Collin and Tarrant counties. Physicians donate their professional services to Bridge clients; medical facilities offer greatly lowered costs to the Bridge.

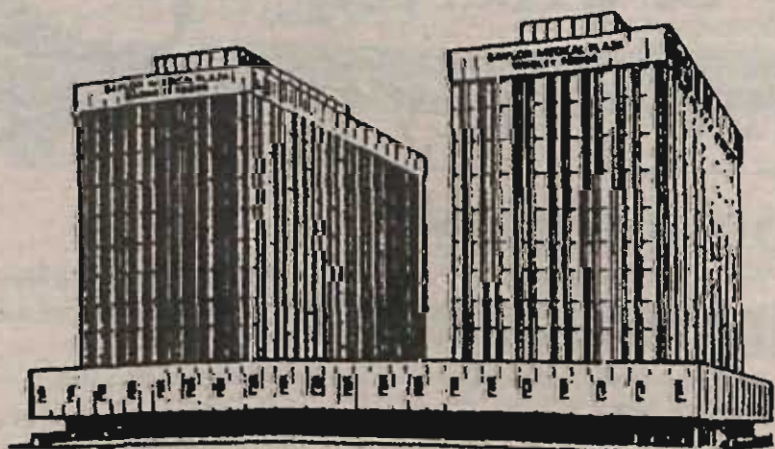
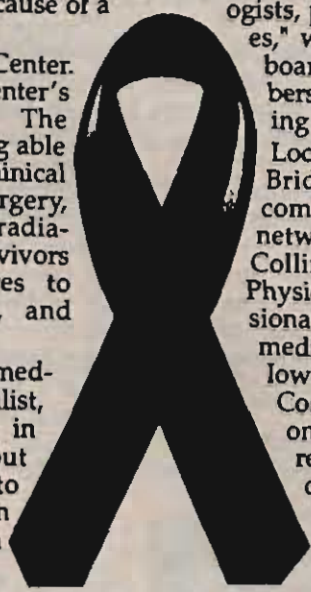
Costs are shared with clients on a sliding scale. Women reach the Bridge in a variety of ways: referrals from the medical community, community health agencies (Planned Parenthood, American Cancer Society, Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation and affiliates), civic organizations, and themselves.

Additionally, according to what treatments are prescribed by the physicians, the Bridge arranges for each phase of treatment. The Center's client services coordinator acts as a liaison for the patient and provider, maintaining medical records and forwarding them

to each provider. Additionally, she maintains a relationship with the client to ensure a medical plan is being followed. Clients of the Bridge can also qualify for "indigent drug programs," and the Center reports, "we accept clients at any point in their treatment."

"The Bridge shares costs with clients." The client's portion ranges between two to four thousand dollars, depending on her medical condition and services needed. Fortunately, the Bridge finances the larger portion of the medical expenses, and for some, depending on their financial situation, the Bridge pays all medical expenses. The center also offers assistance to help clients obtain SSI & Medicaid when needed, and one-to-one support.

Slowly but surely, there's beginning to be hope for the uninsured, underinsured and low income, in all aspects of the healthcare industry. Women who have a mammogram with suspicious findings or who find a lump through breast self-exam should call the Bridge. After qualifying for Bridge services, a woman will be treated for breast disease as well as be treated for breast cancer. Contact the Bridge at 214-821-3820, or on their web site at [www.bridge-breast.org](http://www.bridge-breast.org). Also while the Bridge is a privately funded organization, according to the Bridge, funders include North Texas Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation chapters, foundations, civic groups, sorority alumnae organizations, and individuals. Donations can be made to The Bridge Breast Center, Inc., 3600 Gaston Ave. #401, Dallas, Texas 752461



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# Black police meet in 2000 to educate and train

By Lakeesha Joe

The National Black Police Association (NBPA) will hold its year 2000 Educational and Training Conference in Dallas on May 3-6 at the Wyndham Garden Hotel.

NBPA is a community based advocacy organization. The principal concerns are law enforcement issues and the effect of those issues on the Black community and the total community in general. The NBPA also serves as a national network for training and educating peace officers. The Texas Peace Officer Association is the presidential sponsor of the NBPA.

The organization began almost 28 years ago during the weekend of August 24-26 in 1972, when thirteen black police associations and 109 black peace officers met in St. Louis, Missouri and established the National Black Police Association. The NBPA has established five geographical regions throughout the United States. Each of the regions elects regional and national delegates to represent all black peace officers and other criminal justice practitioners.

The goals and objectives that were established when the NBPA included, improving the relationship between police departments and institutions

and the black community; evaluating the effects of the policies and programs within the criminal justice system upon the black community, serving as a mechanism to recruit black and minority police officers on a national scale, working toward police reform in order to eliminate police corruption, police brutality, and racist discrimination, and educating police officers so that they perform with professionalism and compassion.

"The National Black Police Association represents all people of color which includes over 600,000 police officers," said Preston Gilstrap, President of the NBPA's Southern Region. "Only about 10% of the officers are African-American."

In 1973, the NBPA held its first Educational and Training Conference in Atlanta, Georgia and featured such workshops as "Legal Remedies for Discrimination in Police Department Hiring and Promotional Policies" and "Black Police Organization Strategy". During NBPA's conference in 1999, they held such workshops as "Survival Skills for African-Americans in Policing", "The Feminine Side of the Badge", and "Police Benevolence Associations/Unions: Do They Protect Black Officers?"

"A New Millennium-A New Beginning" is the theme for the NBPA's

year 2000 Education and Training Conference. The NBPA Southern Region says it is poised and prepared to enter the next millennium as the restless conscious of the justice system and reclaim its leadership role in the daily delivery of quality and professional law enforcement services.

"The theme of this year's conference was chosen because as we approach a new century, we have to assess our association's mission and objective and how we've lived out that mission," said Gilstrap.

The mission of the NBPA is to feed the conscious of the American justice system and to change and reform criminal justice services.

During the training conference, law enforcement officers will be brought in to talk about issues that impact African-Americans in the workplace, etc. Conference attendees will participate in a series of non-traditional and high-energy workshops designed to positively impact their spirits, minds, motives, perceptions, professionalism, and comfort zones. Workshops that will be taught during the conference include: "Domestic Violence in the Police Family", "Driving While Black", "What's Hate Got to Do With It", "Restorative Justice", "Finding Ways to Keep Our African-Americans Out of Jail", and "Survival 2000 Strategies"

(how to put talents and skills together to survive today - everything that the books don't tell you).

The Dallas Police Department is very involved in the NBPA Educational Training Conference. Chief Terrell Bolton is giving the keynote address during the conference, and it is expected that most of Dallas Police Department's new Command Team will attend the conference. Arlington and SMU's Chief of Police are also expected to be attendance at the conference.

"The Dallas Police Department has extended every courtesy to our Association, and has given us overwhelming support," said Gilstrap.

The NBPA's reputation for community advocacy has created an interest in other countries through the world. Peace officers of African descent from abroad began to come together and use the NBPA as their organizational model. On August 23, 1996 at the NBPA 24th Annual Conference an accord was reached between the leadership of black police associations in Canada, Bermuda, United Kingdom, and the United States.

The first International Black Police Symposium is scheduled to convene in Toronto, Ontario, Canada in the year 2000.



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## Around The Town

### Ongoing

Lane Gorman Trubitt, LLP is accepting nominations for the Texas Trailblazer Award. The award is given to a woman who has made significant contributions to her community, business or profession. Nominations will be accepted until May 8. For more information call The Burton Agency at 214-522-5544.

The Dallas Opera is accepting applications for its Distinguished Audiences Program. Twenty applicants will be chosen for this program. Opera's programs. Applications must be received by May 31, 2000. For more information or an application call Suzee Bow at 214-443-1013.

The Texas Higher Education Board's deadline for enrolling in the Texas Tomorrow Fund is June 5th. The Texas Tomorrow Fund is a prepaid tuition program that locks in today's prices for tomorrow's college tuition and required fees. For more information call 1-800-445-GRAD (4723) or visit [www.texastomorrowfund.com](http://www.texastomorrowfund.com).

The Greater Dallas Chamber is accepting applications for the Leadership Dallas program. 50 people are selected to be in the program. For more information call Stephanie Miller at 214-746-6746 or [smiller@dal-laschamber.org](mailto:smiller@dal-laschamber.org). The deadline for submitting applications is June 9, 2000.

### May 3

Greenhill School presents author Melba Pattillo Beals at the Zale-Fields Theatre at Greenhill School, 4141 Spring Valley Road, Addison. Beals was one of the "Little Rock Nine" who integrated Central High School in Little Rock in 1957. For more information call Christie Baskett at 972-628-5501.

The Black State Employees Association of Texas Community Development Corporation, Inc. will host a pre-bid conference at 2:00 p.m. to acquaint ethnic minority subcontractors with the general contractor of the planned West Cliff Shopping Plaza, Ledbetter Drive and Hampton Road. For more information, call Darren Reagan at 214-207-0848.

### May 4

The Women's Center of Dallas will recognize six

honorees at their Women Helping Women Event at the Science Place in Fair Park from 6:30-9:00 p.m. To purchase tickets call the Women's Center of Dallas at 214-821-8388.

The Renaissance Cultural Center Business Mixer will be held at 6:00 p.m. at the center, 2100 Evans Ave., Ft. Worth. The Greek Image Awards begin at 6:30 p.m. The event is open to the public. For more information call RCC Executive Director Gloria Austin at 817-922-9999.

DISD is holding their 31st Annual Partners in Education Recognition Program to recognize volunteers and partners of DISD. The event will be held at 10:00 a.m. At the Great Hall, International Apparel Mart, 2300 Stemmons Frwy. For more information call Loretta Simon at 972-925-3899.

### May 5

Nation of Islam, Muhammad Mosque No. 48 and St. Phillips Community Center are holding a youth lock-in for youth ages 10-17 from 7:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. at St. Phillips Community Center, 1600 Pennsylvania in South Dallas. For more information call Tracey Muhammad at 214-421-4848.

### May 6

Parkland Health & Hospital System is holding a Cinco de Mayo Health Fair with 40 free health screenings at Fair Park's Automobile Building. The fair will be held Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Sunday 10:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. For more information call Rene Silva at 214-590-8054.

Metro Church of Christ and Sisters on the Move are sponsoring a Mother's Day Celebration from 3:00-5:00 p.m. at 4650 South Hampton Road, 2nd Floor Suite 222, Dallas. For more information call Dominique Dor at 972-709-1180. Dallas Independent School District is holding several teacher job fairs throughout the city. All fairs will be from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. For more information call 1-800-443-6181 or 972-925-4243.

The Church of Christ is holding their 15th annual Adolescent and Ladies Symposium from 8:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at 1013 South Greenville Ave., Richardson. The symposium is free and open to the public, and

lunch will be provided. For more information or to register call 972-644-2335.

The Oak Cliff Coalition for the Arts and the City of Dallas will celebrate Cinco de Mayo during their Oak Cliff festivities. There will be a parade, festival, scholarship pageant and music. For more information call 214-943-5051.

### May 7

Bank One and LaFuenta are holding a Family Fun Festival commemorating Cinco de Mayo from noon until 10:30 p.m. at Reverchon Park, 3505 Maple Avenue at Turtle Creek. For more information call 214-977-LATIN or visit [www.lafuentetexas.com](http://www.lafuentetexas.com).

### May 11

The Greater Dallas Hispanic Chamber is holding their annual Corporate Appreciation breakfasts at the Hyatt Regency hotel in Dallas beginning at 8:30 a.m. For more information call Pete Pena at 214-827-2997.

### May 12

Dallas County Health & Hyman Services Older Adult Services Program is holding its Annual Extravaganza from 9:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Grand Place in Fair Park. For more information call Ella Talavera at 214-819-1860.

The Greater Dallas Chamber and the City of Dallas will host ambassadors from more than 30 countries at the 20th Annual Dallas Ambassadors Forum May 12-14. For more information or tickets call 214-712-1930.

### May 13

St. Luke "Community" United Methodist Church is holding its 9th SOKO event from 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. on the parking lot of St. Luke, 5710 East R.L. Thornton Freeway, Dallas. For more information or to be a vendor call 214-887-3908.

The Dallas Urban League will host a homebuyers workshop 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at the Dallas Urban League Office, 4315 South Lancaster Road. The workshops are free and open to the community. For more information call Katrina Attaway at 214-915-4639.

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## Ancient Rome revisited in DreamWorks production

Director Ridley Scott brings the battles of the ancient Roman arena back to the big screen in a story of courage and revenge. In "Gladiator", Russell Crowe plays the great Roman General Maximus who is captured and becomes a slave and then becomes a gladiator.

The film takes views through Maximus' life as a great general that has found favor with the dying emperor, played by Richard Harris. Joaquin Phoenix, who plays Commodus, the heir to the throne is jealous of their relationship and orders Maximus and his family killed. Barely escaping, Maximus is forced into slavery and trained as a gladiator in the arena where his fame grows.

He returns to Rome intent on avenging the murder of his wife and son by killing the new emperor Commodus. He learns that by earning the support of the people he will have more power than that of the emperor.

The film also stars African actor Djimon Hounsou. Hounsou received a Golden Globe nomination and won an NAACP Image Award for his portrayal of Cinque in Steven Spielberg's "Amistad", the true story of a revolt on a slave ship in 1839. More recently Hounsou had a recurring role on the television series "ER". In "Gladiator" Hounsou plays Juba. Juba is a fellow gladiator who befriends Maximus in captivity. Hounsou says of his character, "Juba knows that being a gladiator means killing or being killed. He is a very skillful fighter, which enables him to stay alive physically, but he knows a way to stay alive mentally and spiritually as well. In his mind he is with his people; his loved ones are there, waiting for him. That ability to find freedom in your mind is something he tries to share with Maximus."

The film also stars Connie Nielsen as Lucilla, Oliver Reed as Proximo, the gladiator trainer, Richard Harris as Marcus Aurelius, Derek Jacobi as Gracchus, and John Shrapnel as Gaius.

Producing a film of this magnitude was no small undertaking. The film was shot in London, Malta and Morocco. Production crews used 30,000 mud bricks to

reconstruct the amphitheatre of Rome. They also reproduced part of the Colosseum in 19 weeks in Malta. And finally more than 10,000 costumes were created for the speaking cast and the thousands of extras.

Director Ridley Scott says of the film, "I love the idea of creating worlds in the movies I make. In the best possible way, I feel like we built Rome, and then fought all the way from the Rhine to North Africa and back to Rome. But it was great fun to do."

"Gladiator" opens May 5, 2000.



Once a great Roman General, who was sold into slavery and trained as a gladiator, Maximus (Russell Crowe) must fight for his life in the Roman Colosseum in DreamWorks Pictures' and Universal Pictures' epic action drama "Gladiator".



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### NOW SHOWING!

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14-15-16-17-18-19-20-21-22-23-24-25-26-27-28-29-30-31-32-33-34-35-36-37-38-39-40-41-42-43-44-45-46-47-48-49-50-51-52-53-54-55-56-57-58-59-60-61-62-63-64-65-66-67-68-69-70-71-72-73-74-75-76-77-78-79-80-81-82-83-84-85-86-87-88-89-90-91-92-93-94-95-96-97-98-99-100-101-102-103-104-105-106-107-108-109-110-111-112-113-114-115-116-117-118-119-120-121-122-123-124-125-126-127-128-129-130-131-132-133-134-135-136-137-138-139-140-141-142-143-144-145-146-147-148-149-150-151-152-153-154-155-156-157-158-159-160-161-162-163-164-165-166-167-168-169-170-171-172-173-174-175-176-177-178-179-180-181-182-183-184-185-186-187-188-189-190-191-192-193-194-195-196-197-198-199-200-201-202-203-204-205-206-207-208-209-210-211-212-213-214-215-216-217-218-219-220-221-222-223-224-225-226-227-228-229-230-231-232-233-234-235-236-237-238-239-240-241-242-243-244-245-246-247-248-249-250-251-252-253-254-255-256-257-258-259-260-261-262-263-264-265-266-267-268-269-270-271-272-273-274-275-276-277-278-279-280-281-282-283-284-285-286-287-288-289-290-291-292-293-294-295-296-297-298-299-300-301-302-303-304-305-306-307-308-309-310-311-312-313-314-315-316-317-318-319-320-321-322-323-324-325-326-327-328-329-330-331-332-333-334-335-336-337-338-339-340-341-342-343-344-345-346-347-348-349-350-351-352-353-354-355-356-357-358-359-360-361-362-363-364-365-366-367-368-369-370-371-372-373-374-375-376-377-378-379-380-381-382-383-384-385-386-387-388-389-390-391-392-393-394-395-396-397-398-399-400-401-402-403-404-405-406-407-408-409-410-411-412-413-414-415-416-417-418-419-420-421-422-423-424-425-426-427-428-429-430-431-432-433-434-435-436-437-438-439-440-441-442-443-444-445-446-447-448-449-450-451-452-453-454-455-456-457-458-459-460-461-462-463-464-465-466-467-468-469-470-471-472-473-474-475-476-477-478-479-480-481-482-483-484-485-486-487-488-489-490-491-492-493-494-495-496-497-498-499-500-501-502-503-504-505-506-507-508-509-510-511-512-513-514-515-516-517-518-519-520-521-522-523-524-525-526-527-528-529-530-531-532-533-534-535-536-537-538-539-540-541-542-543-544-545-546-547-548-549-550-551-552-553-554-555-556-557-558-559-560-561-562-563-564-565-566-567-568-569-570-571-572-573-574-575-576-577-578-579-580-581-582-583-584-585-586-587-588-589-590-591-592-593-594-595-596-597-598-599-600-601-602-603-604-605-606-607-608-609-610-611-612-613-614-615-616-617-618-619-620-621-622-623-624-625-626-627-628-629-630-631-632-633-634-635-636-637-638-639-640-641-642-643-644-645-646-647-648-649-650-651-652-653-654-655-656-657-658-659-660-661-662-663-664-665-666-667-668-669-670-671-672-673-674-675-676-677-678-679-680-681-682-683-684-685-686-687-688-689-690-691-692-693-694-695-696-697-698-699-700-701-702-703-704-705-706-707-708-709-710-711-712-713-714-715-716-717-718-719-720-721-722-723-724-725-726-727-728-729-730-731-732-733-734-735-736-737-738-739-740-741-742-743-744-745-746-747-748-749-750-751-752-753-754-755-756-757-758-759-760-761-762-763-764-765-766-767-768-769-770-771-772-773-774-775-776-777-778-779-780-781-782-783-784-785-786-787-788-789-790-791-792-793-794-795-796-797-798-799-800-801-802-803-804-805-806-807-808-809-810-811-812-813-814-815-816-817-818-819-820-821-822-823-824-825-826-827-828-829-830-831-832-833-834-835-836-837-838-839-840-841-842-843-844-845-846-847-848-849-850-851-852-853-854-855-856-857-858-859-860-861-862-863-864-865-866-867-868-869-870-871-872-873-874-875-876-877-878-879-880-881-882-883-884-885-886-887-888-889-890-891-892-893-894-895-896-897-898-899-900-901-902-903-904-905-906-907-908-909-910-911-912-913-914-915-916-917-918-919-920-921-922-923-924-925-926-927-928-929-930-931-932-933-934-935-936-937-938-939-940-941-942-943-944-945-946-947-948-949-950-951-952-953-954-955-956-957-958-959-960-961-962-963-964-965-966-967-968-969-970-971-972-973-974-975-976-977-978-979-980-981-982-983-984-985-986-987-988-989-990-991-992-993-994-995-996-997-998-999-1000-1001-1002-1003-1004-1005-1006-1007-1008-1009-1010-1011-1012-1013-1014-1015-1016-1017-1018-1019-1020-1021-1022-1023-1024-1025-1026-1027-1028-1029-1030-1031-1032-1033-1034-1035-1036-1037-1038-1039-1040-1041-1042-1043-1044-1045-1046-1047-1048-1049-1050-1051-1052-1053-1054-1055-1056-1057-1058-1059-1060-1061-1062-1063-1064-1065-1066-1067-1068-1069-1070-1071-1072-1073-1074-1075-1076-1077-1078-1079-1080-1081-1082-1083-1084-1085-1086-1087-1088-1089-1090-1091-1092-1093-1094-1095-1096-1097-1098-1099-1100-1101-1102-1103-1104-1105-1106-1107-1108-1109-1110-1111-1112-1113-1114-1115-1116-1117-1118-1119-1120-1121-1122-1123-1124-1125-1126-1127-1128-1129-1130-1131-1132-1133-1134-1135-1136-1137-1138-1139-1140-1141-1142-1143-1144-1145-1146-1147-1148-1149-1150-1151-1152-1153-1154-1155-1156-1157-1158-1159-1160-1161-1162-1163-1164-1165-1166-1167-1168-1169-1170-1171-1172-1173-1174-1175-1176-1177-1178-1179-1180-1181-1182-1183-1184-1185-1186-1187-1188-1189-1190-1191-1192-1193-1194-1195-1196-1197-1198-1199-1200-1201-1202-1203-1204-1205-1206-1207-1208-1209-1210-1211-1212-1213-1214-1215-1216-1217-1218-1219-1220-1221-1222-1223-1224-1225-1226-1227-1228-1229-1230-1231-1232-1233-1234-1235-1236-1237-1238-1239-1240-1241-1242-1243-1244-1245-1246-1247-1248-1249-1250-1251-1252-1253-1254-1255-1256-1257-1258-1259-1260-1261-1262-1263-1264-1265-1266-1267-1268-1269-1270-1271-1272-1273-1274-1275-1276-1277-1278-1279-1280-1281-1282-1283-1284-1285-1286-1287-1288-1289-1290-1291-1292-1293-1294-1295-1296-1297-1298-1299-1300-1301-1302-1303-1304-1305-1306-1307-1308-1309-1310-1311-1312-1313-1314-1315-1316-1317-1318-1319-1320-1321-1322-1323-1324-1325-1326-1327-1328-1329-1330-1331-1332-1333-1334-1335-1336-1337-1338-1339-1340-1341-1342-1343-1344-1345-1346-1347-1348-1349-1350-1351-1352-1353-1354-1355-1356-1357-1358-1359-1360-1361-1362-1363-1364-1365-1366-1367-1368-1369-1370-1371-1372-1373-1374-1375-1376-1377-1378-1379-1380-1381-1382-1383-1384-1385-1386-1387-1388-1389-1390-1391-1392-1393-1394-1395-1396-1397-1398-1399-1400-1401-1402-1403-1404-1405-1406-1407-1408-1409-1410-1411-1412-1413-1414-1415-1416-1417-1418-1419-1420-1421-1422-1423-1424-1425-1426-1427-1428-1429-1430-1431-1432-1433-1434-1435-1436-1437-1438-1439-1440-1441-1442-1443-1444-1445-1446-1447-1448-1449-1450-1451-1452-1453-1454-1455-1456-1457-1458-1459-1460-1461-1462-1463-1464-1465-1466-1467-1468-1469-1470-1471-1472-1473-1474-1475-1476-1477-1478-1479-1480-1481-1482-1483-1484-1485-1486-1487-1488-1489-1490-1491-1492-1493-1494-1495-1496-1497-1498-1499-1500-1501-1502-1503-1504-1505-1506-1507-1508-1509-1510-1511-1512-1513-1514-1515-1516-1517-1518-1519-1520-1521-1522-1523-1524-1525-1526-1527-1528-1529-1530-1531-1532-1533-1534-1535-1536-1537-1538-1539-1540-1541-1542-1543-1544-1545-1546-1547-1548-1549-1550-1551-1552-1553-1554-1555-1556-1557-1558-1559-1560-1561-1562-1563-1564-1565-1566-1567-1568-1569-1570-1571-1572-1573-1574-1575-1576-1577-1578-1579-1580-1581-1582-1583-1584-1585-1586-1587-1588-1589-1590-1591-1592-1593-1594-1595-1596-1597-1598-1599-1600-1601-1602-1603-1604-1605-1606-1607-1608-1609-1610-1611-1612-1613-1614-1615-1616-1617-1618-1619-1620-1621-1622-1623-1624-1625-1626-1627-1628-1629-1630-1631-1632-1633-1634-1635-1636-1637-1638-1639-1640-1641-1642-1643-1644-1645-1646-1647-1648-1649-1650-1651-1652-1653-1654-1655-1656-1657-1658-1659-1660-1661-1662-1663-1664-1665-1666-1667-1668-1669-1670-1671-1672-1673-1674-1675-1676-1677-1678-1679-1680-1681-1682-1683-1684-1685-1686-1687-1688-1689-1690-1691-1692-1693-1694-1695-1696-1697-1698-1699-1700-1701-1702-1703-1704-1705-1706-1707-1708-1709-1710-1711-1712-1713-1714-1715-1716-1717-1718-1719-1720-1721-1722-1723-1724-1725-1726-1727-1728-1729-1730-1731-1732-1733-1734-1735-1736-1737-1738-1739-1740-1741-1742-1743-1744-1745-1746-1747-1748-1749-1750-1751-1752-1753-1754-1755-1756-1757-1758-1759-1760-1761-1762-1763-1764-1765-1766-1767-1768-1769-1770-1771-1772-1773-1774-1775-1776-1777-1778-1779-1780-1781-1782-1783-1784-1785-1786-1787-1788-1789-1790-1791-1792-1793-1794-1795-1796-1797-1798-1799-1800-1801-1802-1803-1804-1805-1806-1807-1808-1809-1810-1811-1812-1813-1814-1815-1816-1817-1818-1819-1820-1821-1822-1823-1824-1825-1826-1827-1828-1829-1830-1831-1832-1833-1834-1835-1836-1837-1838-1839-1840-1841-1842-1843-1844-1845-1846-1847-1848-1849-1850-1851-1852-1853-1854-1855-1856-1857-1858-1859-1860-1861-1862-1863-1864-1865-1866-1867-1868-1869-1870-1871-1872-1873-1874-1875-1876-1877-1878-1879-1880-1881-1882-1883-1884-1885-1886-1887-1888-1889-1890-1891-1892-1893-1894-1895-1896-1897-1898-1899-1900-1901-1902-1903-1904-1905-1906-1907-1908-1909-1910-1911-1912-1913-1914-1915-1916-1917-1918-1919-1920-1921-1922-1923-1924-1925-1926-1927-1928-1929-1930-1931-1932-1933-1934-1935-1936-1937-1938-1939-1940-1941-1942-1943-1944-1945-1946-1947-1948-1949-1950-1951-1952-1953-1954-1955-1956-1957-1958-1959-1960-1961-1962-1963-1964-1965-1966-1967-1968-1969-1970-1971-1972-1973-1974-1975-1976-1977-1978-1979-1980-1981-1982-1983-1984-1985-1986-1987-1988-1989-1990-1991-1992-1993-1994-1995-1996-1997-1998-1999-2000-2001-2002-2003-2004-2005-2006-2007-2008-2009-2010-2011-2012-2013-2014-2015-2016-2017-2018-2019-2020-2021-2022-2023-2024-2025-2026-2027-2028-2029-2030-2031-2032-2033-2034-2035-2036-2037-2038-2039-2040-2041-2042-2043-2044-2045-2046-2047-2048-2049-2050-2051-2052-2053-2054-2055-2056-2057-2058-2059-2060-2061-2062-2063-2064-2065-2066-2067-2068-2069-2070-2071-2072-2073-2074-2075-2076-2077-2078-2079-2080-2081-2082-2083-2084-2085-2086-2087-2088-2089-2090-2091-2092-2093-2094-2095-2096-2097-2098-2099-2100-2101-2102-2103-2104-2105-2106-2107-2108-2109-2110-2111-2112-2113-2114-2115-2116-2117-2118-2119-2120-2121-2122-2123-2124-2125-2126-2127-2128-2129-2130-2131-2132-2133-2134-2135-2136-2137-2138-2139-2140-2141-2142-2143-2144-2145-2146-2147-2148-2149-2150-2151-2152-2153-2154-2155-2156-2157-2158-2159-2160-2161-2162-2163-2164-2165-2166-2167-2168-2169-2170-2171-2172-2173-2174-2175-2176-2177-2178-2179-2180-2181-2182-2183-2184-2185-2186-2187-2188-2189-2190-2191-2192-2193-2194-2195-2196-2197-2198-2199-2200-2201-2202-2203-2204-2205-2206-2207-2208-2209-2210-2211-2212-2213-2214-2215-2216-2217-2218-2219-2220-2221-2222-2223-2224-2225-2226-2227-2228-2229-2230-2231-2232-2233-2234-2235-2236-2237-2238-2239-2240-2241-2242-2243-2244-2245-2246-2247-2248-2249-2250-2251-2252-2253-2254-2255-2256-2257-2258-2259-2260-2261-2262-2263-2264-2265-2266-2267-2268-2269-2270-2271-2272-2273-2274-2275-2276-2277-2278-2279-2280-2281-2282-2283-2284-2285-2286-2287-2288-2289-2290-2291-2292-2293-2294-2295-2296-2297-2298-2299-2300-2301-2302-2303-2304-2305-2306-2307-2308-2309-2310-2311-2312-2313-2314-2315-2316-2317-2318-2319-2320-2321-232
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# CELEBRATE

## NOW PLAYING

AT A THEATER NEAR YOU

U-571

World War II film starring Matthew McConaughey and Jon Bon Jovi as submarine crewman on a mission to deliver cargo, which turns into something more dangerous than anything imagined, and which has the power to turn the tide of battle.

### Love and Basketball

Film starring Omar Epps and Sanaa Lathan as childhood neighbors who become basketball superstars. The film traces the trials and tribulations of their relationship from its start at the age of eleven to the world of professional basketball.

### Rules of Engagement

Samuel Jackson and Tommy Lee Jones star in this military courtroom drama about Marines trying to repay old debts. Jackson saved Jones' life in Vietnam, now Jones defends Jackson against a court martial involving a mission gone bad.

### Gossip

Sex, deception and rumor detonate when fellow university students and roommates collaborate on their journalism class assignment to identify the link between news and gossip. But when their class project gets out of control, it puts friendships, the future, and lives in jeopardy.

### Frequency

Starring Dennis Quaid and Andre Braugher, the film takes on time travel with the story of a father and son who reach out to one another across parallel universes to stop a terrible crime.



### Dr. Dre files copyright suit

Rapper Dr. Dre sued Napster Inc. for copyright infringement after the song-swapping software company failed to meet his deadline to take his songs off its directory. The company has also been sued by heavy metal band Metallica and by the Recording Industry Association of America.

### Atlanta coach calls it quits

Atlanta Hawks basketball head coach Lenny Wilkens resigned his position at Phillips Arena in Atlanta. The 62-year-old Wilkens had coached the Hawks for 7 seasons. The decision came after the Hawks 28-54 season, their worst record since moving to Atlanta in 1968.

### Producer killed at hip-hop party

Ronald Blackburn, co-founder of Ronlan Entertainment, an Oakland-based record company, was shot to death outside a San Francisco nightclub. He was attending a release party for hip-hop artist Money B's new album "Talkin' Dirty". Shooting broke out about 1:30 a.m. and Blackburn was hit. Police hoped to make an arrest but found no clear motive for the shooting. Blackburn was 31.

## SPOTLIGHT

### Soul Rep Theatre presents autobiographical drama

Soul Rep Theatre Company is presenting its premier of Dr. Endesha Ida Mae Holland's 1988 Pulitzer Prize nominated autobiographical drama, "From the Mississippi Delta".

The drama is told as a folktale that blends Holland's life with the legends and ways of the people she grew up with. Actresses Vicki Washington, nia akimbo and Dee Smith portray the 20+ roles used to tell Holland's life story. The play spans nearly forty years and is set against the backdrop of the Civil Rights Movement. It follows Holland's life from her early years in Greenwood, Mississippi to her college years on Minnesota.

The production will run May 5-7, 12-14 & 19-21 at the Black Academy of Arts and Letters, 605 S. Griffin, in the Dallas Convention Center. For more information call 214-521-5070, or visit Soul Rep's website at [www.soulrep.org](http://www.soulrep.org)



Vicki Washington, nia akimbo and Dee Smith play the main characters of Dr. Endesha Ida Mae Holland's "From the Mississippi Delta". The play will be performed at the Black Academy of Arts and Letters.



## THE TUBE



### PBS tells story of Fisk Jubilee Singers



"Jubilee Singers: Sacrifice and Glory" chronicles the Fisk Jubilee Singers, a chorus of former slaves who not only saved their school through fundraising concerts

The story of Fisk University's internationally acclaimed Jubilee Singers will be told on Monday, May 1, 2000 at 9:00 p.m. when The American Experience premieres "Jubilee Singers: Sacrifice and Glory" on PBS stations nationwide.

The documentary is about a group of former slaves who, in 1871, battled prejudice and oppression to sing their way into the

nation's heart and raise funds to save their school. Over the last 129 years, The Fisk Jubilee Singers performed for royalty and government leaders. Today the Singers continue to command international audiences around the world.

The program will be rebroadcast various times.

## Events

May 4-6

The Dallas Black Dance Theatre will present its Sixth Annual Choreographer's Choice Series at the Majestic Theater. The company will present a variety of new works including solos, duets, trios and ensembles. For more information call Cindy Denmark at 972-881-2914.

May 5-20

Ft. Worth Theatre's Hispanic Series presents Shakespeare's comedy Much Ado About Nothing and sets it against the background of the Mexican Revolution. Performances begin at 8:00 p.m. at the Orchestra Hall, 4401 Trail Lake Drive at Granbury Road, Ft. Worth. For more information call Lynda Rodriguez or Steve Garrett at 817-921-5300.

May 6

Southeast YMCA presents "Apollo at the Y" from 6:00-9:00 p.m. at the Southeast YMCA, 2801 Miller Avenue, Ft. Worth. Funds will be used to support childcare services, Summer Day Camp and youth outreach. To register or for information call 817-534-1591.

The Dallas Institute of Humanities & Culture will host a literary symposium and jazz concert celebrating the works of Ralph Ellison and Albert Murray from 12:30 p.m. to 11:00 p.m., 2719 Routh Street, Dallas. The event will feature discussion sessions and presentations followed by dinner and music and dancing with the Marchel Ivery Jazz Quartet. For information call 214-871-2440.

May 8

NM Productions Theater Company will hold auditions for youth and adult actors for its "Huckleberry Finn" performance in June. Auditions will be held from 6:00-10:00 p.m. For more information call 972-680-4466 or 817-784-6671.

May 12

Piano Repertory Theatre presents "Songs for a New World" at the ArtCentre Theatre, 1028 16th Place in Historic Downtown Plano. Opening night performance begins at 7:30 p.m. For more information call 972-422-7460.

May 14

TBAAL and Third Eye present a free book review at 3:00 p.m. John S. Mbiti's "African Religion and Philosophy", considered a classic in African literature will be reviewed. For more information call 214-743-2440.

May 15

Country music artist Charley Pride will appear in concert at the Bass Hall in Ft. Worth. Bill Mack of WBAP will emcee the concert, which will be preceded by a VIP reception with Pride and a silent auction. To purchase tickets call 817-335-9000 or Ticketmaster.



## MON's Library

### *In the Garden of Our Dreams: Memoirs of a Marriage*

By Shirlee Taylor Haizlip and Harold C. Haizlip

(Kodansha, \$24.00, hardback)

By Delmetria L. Millener

Lyrical in tone, *In the Garden of Our Dreams* is the dual



biography of best-selling author Shirlee Taylor Haizlip and her husband, Harold C. Haizlip. Told by the couple in alternating, but harmonic voices, *Garden of Dreams* tell of the real-life fairy-tale life of this couple's devotion to marriage, and how that devotion shapes and molds them into individuals who are equipped to take on the world. Having met on a blind date, it's a classic story of the North meeting the South, and hand in hand, overcoming unfavorable obstacles during the turbulent '60s, to force white America to accept them

on their own terms.

Readers can almost hear the violins as the Haizlips take us through their life's timeline of love, devotion, and affection for each other and the rest of the world. Although the authors are detailed in their reflections, explaining their almost 40-year love affair that began when Shirlee was a junior at Wellesley College and Harold was a graduate student at Harvard, it is easy to forget that the story is real because it feels so angelic. Readers will, no doubt, find themselves in awe of the compassion that the couple feels for each other, their families and black America, while they share the desire to uplift the black race.

A hard-to-put-down story, readers follow along as the Haizlips move from house to house and accept socially conscious job after job in their efforts to make a home for themselves, and later their two successful daughters, "one a Yale graduate and the other a Yale dropout." We watch as the couple, although privileged, struggle through hard luck and bad times to finally reach the perfect zenith in their lives that seem to live on forever. Shirlee, a strong, but determined woman, serves as her readers intimate tour guide, and leads us on an excursion of their moves from Boston to New York and takes us there to the parties they frequented, and hosted, usually as the only black couple in attendance. On the other hand, Harold, a committed husband, devoted father and model citizen, is our dictator, as he leads us on the political and cultural path that takes the couple and their children abroad to St. Thomas, and leads them back to California, where they live today.

Nevertheless, many degrees, parties, famous and not-so-famous friends, homes, and positions of employment later, the outcome is a perfect family with an upper middle class lifestyle, two perfect daughters, and a happy little sun-sweetened life. Their happiness and completeness oozes from cover to cover, with 8 pages of black and white photos to prove it.

However, do I dare step out on a limb and beg to differ in my perspective of the story, from other critics ranging from *The New York Times* Book Review to *Essence* magazine? I say, let me off the colorful carousel of singing birds and smiling faces before I get dizzy and fall off! Although this is a very nice story to read, near the end, I viewed the couple's hard times as maybe having to buy an off-brand item instead of a brand name label. After having read many reviews from other critics, raving of the hard times and bad luck that the couple had, it is easy for me to see that America's view of hard times for the upper class is a stark contrast to the struggles of the lower class. While I do not discount the couple's story, their feelings, or reflections, it is my opinion that they overplay their struggles and bad luck.

Throughout the book Shirlee, who was raised in the

North, alludes to readers that in all her years of living, she maybe heard her parents disagree once or twice. She has never heard her parents fight or heard her mother raise her voice, and discrimination was overrated among the racial mixture of friends they embraced and in the racially mixed neighborhoods in which they lived. In their story, Shirlee tells readers of her anger with some of the decisions Harold makes, and at many social issues occurring in America during that time. However, as the good, little wife she is, oh boy, she really rebels when she keeps her feelings locked inside and gives Harold

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*Sometimes*  
it takes the  
vision of one to  
light the way  
for many.

Lewis H. Latimer,  
engineer, draftsman  
and inventor.

Lewis Howard Latimer's  
creation of the carbon  
filament electric lamp helped  
light the cities of the world.  
Yet, few people are aware of  
the fact that Latimer also  
worked alongside  
Alexander Graham Bell,  
executing the drawings and  
preparing the patent for one  
of the greatest innovations  
since the turn of the century  
— the first telephone.  
Southwestern Bell honors  
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visionaries, and will continue  
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programs that carry on the  
proud heritage of African  
American pioneers of  
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## Rising Star Program provides college opportunities for students

By Angela D. Jones

Around this time every year thousands of area high school seniors partake in a "ritual" that so many seniors before them have sustained. While many of these graduates will move away in pursuit of a higher education at a college or university of their choice; many others will remain at home and attend one of the area's many community colleges, due to a lack of choice brought on by financial need.

In an effort to eliminate financial need as a barrier to the pursuit of higher education, the Rising Star program was launched during the fall of last year. As part of the Dallas Community College District Foundation, Rising Star offers a full scholarship to high school seniors who are in the top 40th percentile of their class, have a grade average of B or better, and who have a financial need. In addition, Rising Star participants must enroll in the program no later than the fall following their high school graduation and must attend one of the seven Dallas community colleges of El Centro, Mountain View, Northlake, Eastfield, Cedar Valley, Richland or Brookhaven. They also have the option of attending one of the Dallas community college learning centers—the Bill J. Priest Institute, which specializes in workforce training and the LaCroix Center, which provides a variety of TV and online courses.

The Rising Star program is currently being offered to 27 high schools in the southern part of Dallas; with high schools such as Seagoville, A. Maceo Smith, H. Grady Spruce, Skyline and Sunset generating the majority of participation in terms of applications.

"Our goal is to roll out the program county-wide by 2001," says Betheny Reid, Executive Director of the Dallas Community College Foundation. "We are currently in the process of building a \$32 million endowment which will allow the program to exist and function on a permanent basis."

According to Reid, approximately \$10 million has been raised since fundraising efforts for the endowment began last year. She says that support for the program has come in the form of funds from individual donors, as well as from large corporations such as Texas Instruments (TI), which contributed \$1 million; Kimberly Clark, which donated \$500,000 and The Associates, which gave \$25,000. Another source of major contributions to the fund, Reid adds, has come from "word of mouth," namely from Mayor Ron Kirk, himself.

"From the moment he heard about the program, Mayor Kirk has embraced Rising Star," explains Reid. "We didn't even have to ask him for an endorsement—he has sent several major gifts our way." She adds, "just simply by Ron Kirk mentioning the program, we might get a check for \$60,000 or more. We definitely couldn't ask for a better spokesperson because his support of the program has been so phenomenal."

As the "brainchild" of Foundation Chairman Bob Thornton and Dallas Community College District Chancellor Dr. Bill Wenrich, the Rising Star program enrolled 700 students last fall; most of whom are expected to graduate next year with Associates degrees. For the class starting in the fall of 2001, over 900 applications have already been received.

"We only anticipated getting about 400 students last year and ended up with 700," Reid says. "Of these, 88 percent are ethnic minorities and 85 percent have told us that they are the first in their families to graduate."

Reid adds, "Dr. Wenrich has made it a priority to recruit students for this program and has made a commitment to make the program work. We are all putting our money where our mouth is when it comes to Rising Star."

Though in its infancy, Rising Star has already received

us that they are the first in their families to graduate."

Reid adds, "Dr. Wenrich has made it a priority to recruit students for this program and has made a commitment to make the program work. We are all putting our money where our mouth is when it comes to Rising Star."

Though in its infancy, Rising Star has already received national recognition for its flexibility and record enrollment during its first year. While students typically drop out of college during their freshmen year, the Rising Star program has a return rate of students that is 20 percent higher than the state average. According to Reid, while only a state average of

61 percent of freshmen returned for this past spring semester, 81 percent of Rising Star students returned this spring.

Reid adds, "In terms of the drop-out rate, research has found that the biggest drop-out occurs amongst seventh and eighth graders. I strongly believe that if they knew that college was an option, they might stay in."

"Young people need to know that community college is a very viable option because they can attend day and/or evening classes, and can earn an Associates degree in two years. They can even go

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## TXU & TPA sponsor scholarship contest

TXU Electric & Gas and the Texas Publishers Association are sponsoring a scholarship contest for spring 2000 graduating high school graduates. Six scholarships of \$2,500 will be awarded to area seniors from accredited high school within the state of Texas.

Contestants must submit an essay describing how a historic African-American figure would change the world using today's technology and innovations. Essays must be typed. Contestants are also required to complete and submit a Contestant Information form with their

entries. Contest entries must be postmarked by June 16, 2000. Winners will be notified on or about July 1, 2000.

Applicants should mail their entries to:

"Bright Minds, Bright Futures" Contest  
Brannon-Cottrell  
Stemmons Freeway, Suite 1155  
Dallas, TX 75207

For more information, or to receive a Contest Information form contact Michael Edelen at (512) 480-9649.



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## ... continued from page 21

In an effort to reach its \$32 million goal, which will allow the Rising Star program to operate on a permanent basis, Reid and program supporters are soliciting donations from "all walks of life." One hundred percent of the donations go directly to the Foundation's Rising Star fund and no administrative fee is charged. Currently, approximately \$2,200 is set aside, per qualifying student, to earn his or her Associates degree through the program.

"Community college is about access," Reid says. "We are happy to be able to provide a program that provides that access, but only your donations will guarantee that someone else can go to college through Rising Star."

For more information on the Rising Star program, and how to contribute to its endowment fund, please contact the College District Foundation office at (214) 860-2474.

### DEPUTY DISTRICT ENGINEER DIRECTOR III

B019/1622      \$5446.00-\$6805.00 month      Opening Date: 4/17/00  
Job Vacancy Number: 0-16-E428-805      Closing Date: 5/15/00  
Work Location: Corpus Christi District  
area office (1 vacancy)

**JOB DESCRIPTION:** Assists in all phases of management including transportation planning, right-of-way acquisition, engineering design, construction, inspection and maintenance of highways and bridges. Supervises professionals in specific functional areas. Oversees district programs and assists the District Engineer in maintaining effective operation of the district. Extensive contact with business and community leaders; contractors; special interest, governmental and transportation officials at the local, state, federal or international levels, the media and the public.

**MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS:** Must be licensed by the State of Texas as a professional engineer. (Professional engineers licensed in another state, but not currently licensed in the State of Texas, must (1) meet the license requirements of the Texas Engineering Practices Act, (2) obtain a professional engineering license from the Texas Board of the Texas Engineers within six (6) months of the date of hire, and (3) sign an agreement to that effect as a condition of employment.) Must have four (4) years progressively responsible experience in transportation engineering as a licensed professional engineer in areas such as transportation planning and the location, design, construction, operation and maintenance of highways, bridges and related structures. Graduate-level engineering education may be substituted for professional engineering experience on a year per year basis. Must have three (3) years managers/supervisory experience. Applicants must have actual experience in managing supervisors or managers. Experience requirements may be satisfied by full-time experience or the prorated part-time equivalent.

#### BENEFITS:

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- Paid Holiday
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- 401K & Deferred Compensation

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:** Contact your local Texas Workforce Commission Office, TxDOT district offices, TxDOT county offices, TxDOT employment office, or Internet home page <http://www.dot.state.tx.us/>. Applicants may call the Job Line (1-800-893-6848) to obtain information about this or additional job vacancy notices. Resumes are accepted for additional information but not in lieu of completed application. Mailed completed application to: P O Box 9907, Corpus Christi, Texas 78469. For additional information call (512) 808-2300. Mailed applications must be postmarked on or prior to the end of the **POSTING DATE**. Applicants who live out of state may fax application, however, the signed original must be sent to a TxDOT location at least 24 hours after the closing date.

An applicant needing an accommodation in order to apply for this job may call (512) 808-2243.

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### NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS OF PROPOSED TEXAS HIGHWAY IMPROVEMENT CONTRACTS

Sealed proposals for highway improvement contracts will be received by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) until the date (s) shown below, and then publicly read.

#### CONSTRUCTION/MAINTENANCE CONTRACT (S)

District Dallas

Contract 0091-06-033 for INTERSECTION IMPROVEMENT in DALLAS County will be opened on June 06, 2000 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or District Offices listed below. Bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract (s) are available at reproduction companies in Austin, Texas at the expense of the contractor.

NPO:118

#### State Office

Construction Division  
200 E. Riverside Dr.  
Austin, Texas 78704  
Phone: 512-416-2540  
District Office (s)

#### Dallas District

District Engineer 4777 E. Hwy 80  
Mesquite, Texas 75150  
Phone: 214-320-6100

Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.

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Fax # 972-459-6002

Or

Email: [nharris@harcourt.com](mailto:nharris@harcourt.com)

EOE/AA



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the silent treatment for a whole night! Being submissive is sometimes essential in a marriage, but please, give us a break. All this and more from a black woman, who, now and during the peak of discrimination in the 60s, was light enough to pass for white.

On the other hand, the southern-raised, noble husband role that a very dark skinned Harold projects throughout the story, gives readers the feeling that he is holding back his honest opinion of the discrimination they encountered as a seemingly interracial couple. I found myself impatient with his elusive dialog, wanting more (the real truth) from him than the political and cultural overview that he attributed to the story. I cannot suppress a huge grin while reading one critic's opinion who suggests, "Who do these people think they're kidding? They have an interracial marriage (two opposing phenotypes—European (hers) and Negroid (his). They should admit it."

On a whole, In the Garden of Our Dreams is a story worth reading. The authors are generally great storytellers. If read carefully, I believe "regular folk" who really struggle with life, love and marriage—without the financial safety net of Daddy's pockets, cars, houses and social status—can mildly detect society's materialistic attitude and impatience with welfare and other low-income systems. (By the way, "regular folk" are those who are broke, with kids, who not only never make it to Yale (free), but also barely pass twelfth grade, yet still endure and still produce successful children).

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To request an application please contact:

Human Resources, Town Center  
211 E. Pleasant Run Rd.  
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Texas Lottery - GT P.O. Box 16630 Austin, TX 78761-6630



